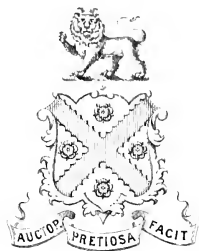


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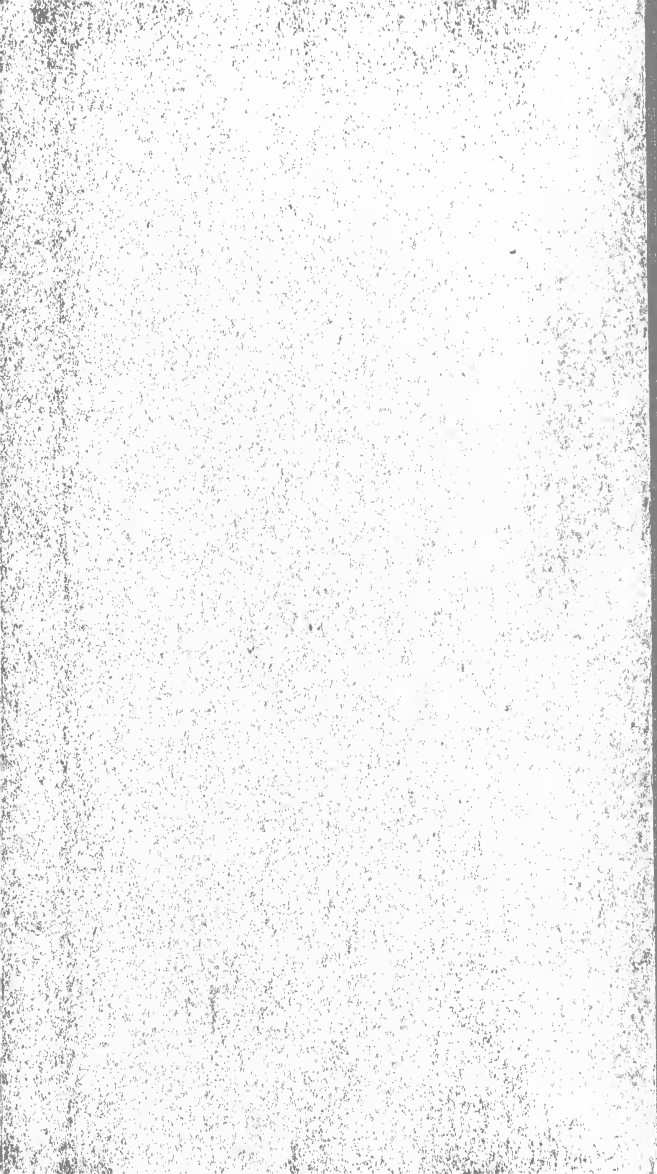
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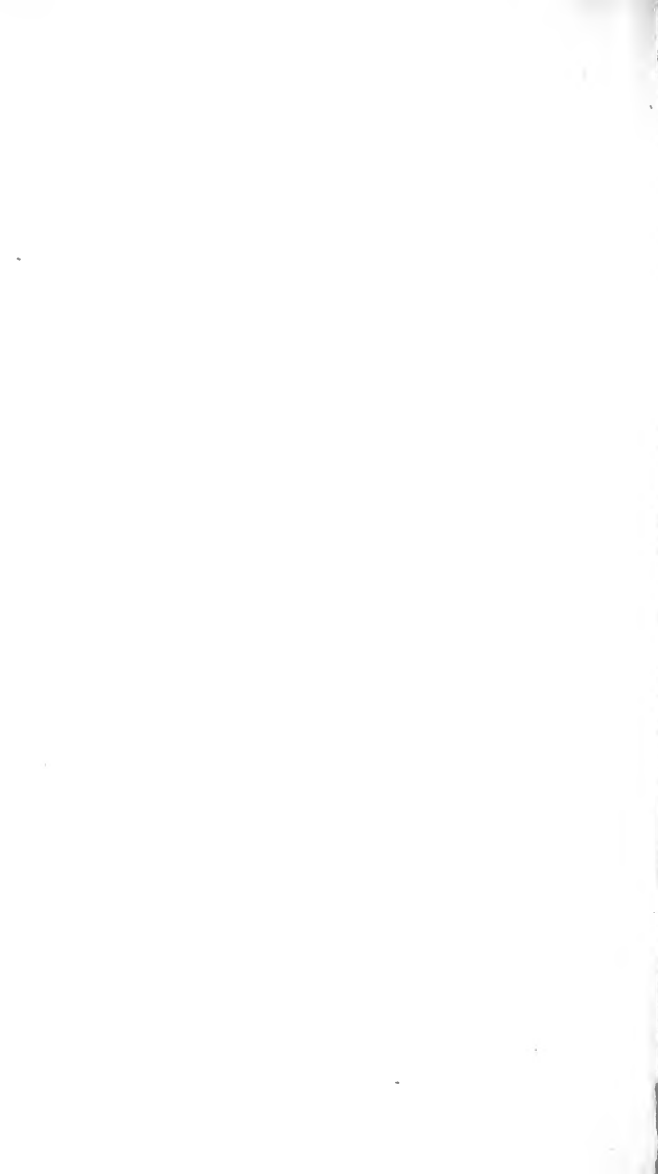


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Mary Anne Clarke

THE
RIVAL PRINCES;
OR, A
FAITHFUL NARRATIVE OF FACTS,
RELATING TO
MRS. M. A. CLARKE'S
POLITICAL ACQUAINTANCE
WITH
COLONEL WARDLE, MAJOR DODD,
&c. &c. &c.
WHO WERE CONCERNED IN THE CHARGES AGAINST
THE
DUKE OF YORK;
TOGETHER WITH
A variety of authentic and important
LETTERS,
AND
CURIOUS AND INTERESTING ANECDOTES OF SEVERAL
PERSONS OF POLITICAL NOTORIETY.

BY MARY ANNE CLARKE.

TWO VOLUMES IN ONE.

NEW-YORK:
PUBLISHED BY DAVID LONGWORTH,
AT THE
Shakspeare Gallery.

September 1810.

E. A.



E. M. Blunt & Co. 202, Water Street.

PREFACE.

AS custom has rendered a preface as necessary an appendage to a book as the binding which secures it from damage, I am obliged to conform to that fashion which is in general a very useless trespass upon the reader's patience; and thus enter into my motives for offering the following sheets to the notice of the public, though the body of every work ought sufficiently to explain the author's reasons for having called the attention of the reader to the labors of his pen.

But as fashion is the life of all our actions, I will not offend its votaries by sending my literary efforts into the world without a leading string, by which the reader may catch the *cause* I have for throwing my work upon the care of an indulgent and liberal public.

My *conduct* and *motives* having suffered misrepresentation by the vile breath of industrious slander, I am induced to lay before the public, the following statement, in order to remove the pernicious effect of those attacks that have been maliciously organized for the accomplishment of my ruin, and the destruction of my happiness.

As my acquaintance with his royal highness the duke of York is within the knowledge of all descriptions of persons in the kingdom, perhaps in Europe, it precludes the necessity of making the splendid scenes of his society, the subject of particular narrative; further than to observe, that my late royal friend is *indebted* for all *his disasters* to the *economical* descendant of him who deceived fair **EYE** at the small *expense* of an **APPLE**!

When deserted by my royal friend, I submitted to a life of undeserved seclusion with more fortitude than falls to the generality of my sex under similar circumstances.

Pursued by creditors—harassed and distressed by threats, which afforded my future life no other prospect but the walls of a prison, is it to be made a matter of surprise that any woman, so situated, with an infant family to support and protect, should be glad to catch at any offer that would remove from my *distracted vision*, those dreadful phantoms of misery that presented themselves to an almost deranged mind!

If the gentleman who professes to give his royal friend his services *gratuitously*, had but have been *political*, as well as feeling, and attended to my repeated appeals to his *heart and head*, he would have afforded his patron more *real service* than his *gratuitous* speeches will do for a hundred years to come;—would have prevented subsequent ill consequences—and saved me from the fangs and exposure of **ILL PRINCIPLED IMPOSTORS**, who dragged me, *under false views*, from silent and piercing penury, to raise themselves on the *ashes of their country*!

Seeing no alternative left but to perish at the feet of my children, or stand up against a friend, who, I am sure, has not a heart capable of injuring any one, if the *envenomed* tongue of officious kindness had not played about his royal ear, and poured into it that poison against me, which in its operation, proved fatal to him whom it was intended to serve!

The following pages will best show how that public impostor, colonel Wardle, has employed my misfortunes to the advantage of his own despicable views; and after I ceased to lend myself to other *abominable designs*, he thought it *political* to forget all his promises of reward to me, and has since waded through an ocean of perjury to keep up his *undeserved popularity* with the people of England!

Let it be remembered that I have never *wantonly*

forced myself upon the public *attention*, and that it has been only when promises were made to me, and their performance afterwards neglected, that I have been heard to complain; and when *pacific* applications were unavailing, and I *became goaded* beyond all endurance, that I shook off the native gentleness of my sex, and assumed the *heroine* in defence of my claims, by taking up arms against my ENEMY!

From the justice I owe to my own character and feelings, and the respect I feel for the good opinion of the public, this work derives its *existence*, which I hope will merit the approbation of those respectable persons who must feel pleased with a complete exposure of those political impostors, who, *under a mask of public virtue*, have aimed at nothing but the subversion of that *constitutional fabric*, which has for ages afforded *more freedom* to the human character, than any other nation in the known *Universe*!

MARY ANNE CLARKE.

Cottage, Putney,
May 29th, 1810.

THE RIVAL PRINCES,

&c. &c. &c.

IT is said that great events often result from trifling causes—so considerable public good, frequently proceeds from individual inconvenience.

Whatever injury an illustrious personage may have sustained by the loss of his office, great good will result to the nation, on its being able at last to estimate the true friends of the country, from those, whose assumed patriotism for a short time, obtained the affections of the people, and grew upon its credulity.

It may appear a little strange that I, who but a few months ago, was the great medium by which colonel Wardle sprang from insignificant obscurity to the apex of popular admiration, should now be the medium to wither those laurels which were obtained by ambition, and supported by dishonor: but such is the mutability of all human affairs, that those who raise the temple to another's glory, may, by fortuitous causes, be the means to level it with the dust.

The great popularity colonel Wardle obtained last session of parliament by his charges against the duke of York, will, I am of opinion, be converted into worse than public contempt, when the motives for his prosecution of that illustrious personage are faithfully given to the public:—which I profess to do, without malice or exaggeration.

I always entertained an indifferent opinion of *democratic virtue*, or what is fashionably called *patriotism*,

but I must confess my acquaintance with colonel Wardle, and his associates, has convinced me, that the garb of patriotic ardor conceals the most destructive passions and principles that can possibly animate the bosom of a social being;—passions and principles that have no end but in *self advancement*, power and honors:—as I shall more fully illustrate.

If the patriot, who drew me from the shade of undeserved poverty, to support his charges against a prince, had but possessed any of the ordinary qualities which belong to common honesty; it is most probable his vile system of politics, would at this moment, have been unknown to the public; but when the private principles of a man are so despicably bad as to aim at the ruin and disgrace of one to whom he is indebted for all his popularity; and the possession of that ground, which gave him a consequence in the chart of political warfare;—what must the reader think of the purity of public virtue, when the idea of a private obligation does not exist in the *wise* head of this STATE TINKER, who pants so much to REFORM the ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

The pure, patriotic colonel, was too much elated with the temporary honors I had fixed on his brow, to suffer his happy slumbers to be the least ruffled by the thoughts, that I could an “unvarnished tale relate,” which would merge him in the pit of public disgrace he had so artfully been preparing for me. But as he sought to ruin me by endeavoring to shake off the remembrance of my just claims, he must patiently bear my exposition of his conduct as a *private friend*, and a public patriot.

As the order of things is now reversed in our system of politics, and as colonel Wardle is in want of those principles which characterize the gentleman and man of honor, I am under the necessity of defending my character, and justifying my conduct upon every subject that is at all connected with our acquaintance.

Having made these general observations, I shall now proceed to develop every circumstance attending our knowledge of each other, for the opinion and judgment of the candid reader :

The pecuniary difficulties under which I labored for two years after I retired from the protection of the duke of York, obliged me to conceal myself at different times under the roof of a Mrs. Andrews, of Hampstead, a very worthy woman, who has been twenty years a resident in that village.

It was during one of these unhappy periods of seclusion from the world, that I first acquired a knowledge of Sir Richard Phillips, who had also occupied part of the above lady's house, which afforded him an opportunity of learning my name, and something of my misfortunes.

The knight having been (as it has been reported) one of the disciples of the notorious Tom Paine, and a member of the Corresponding Society, naturally sought for associates of those political principles, which once sent him so Leicester gaol ; and as persons of congenial sentiments attract each other, it will not be a matter of surprise to the reader, to hear that colonel Wardle and the knight have long been sworn brothers.*

Through this medium, colonel Wardle acquired his knowledge of the place of my seclusion, and despatched his confidant, M'Cullum,† the *American Spy*, to Hampstead, in order to induce me to assist in the great work of his ambition.

* Though Sir Richard Phillips has publicly denied any acquaintance with col. Wardle at this period, I shall be able in the course of the work, to convince the reader of the knight's *short memory* upon this point.

† It is stated, that when general Picton, was Governor of Trinidad, Mr. M'Cullum was suspected of being a *spy*, and accordingly taken into custody and examined for the offence, but escaped the justice of the country through the friendship of major Dodd and Mr. Glennie. This accounts for his connexion with the major, and the confidential business that has been entrusted to him by the duke of Kent and col. Wardle.

About the latter end of September, 1808, M'Cullum waited on Mrs. Andrews, said he came to see me on business of great importance, and urged her to favor him with my address, which she declined, under an impression that he was one of the servants of the Sheriff, who are found to be very troublesome visitors in those families they are pleased to *honor* with their presence.

In all pursuits of life much is done by perseverance, and as col. Wardle knew very well that he could not accomplish the object of his wishes without considerable exertion, his ardor did not abate at the unfavorable answer Mrs. Andrews gave to M'Cullum, but he frequently sent his confidant to Hampstead, in order to persuade her to entrust him with my place of concealment.

During the interval of his visits to Mrs. Andrews, she came to Bedford Place, Russel-square, to acquaint me of all that had been said by M'Cullum, and also brought me two or three letters, which she received of him, under a promise to forward them to me. The information I collected from the letters, and my friend, went to assure me, that the object of M'Cullum's visit was to suggest something that would prove very beneficial to me, and relieve me from my then embarrassed circumstances.

These letters I laid before Mr. Stokes, of Golden-square, who advised me to return a cautious answer, which I did, but appointed a time to receive the bearer of them, who accordingly waited upon me.

When the mind is in a state of doubt as to the friendly disposition of the person, whom, the necessity of circumstances obliges us to meet, the dress and deportment of the object go a great way, either to relieve our fears, or increase suspicion;—this was precisely the case on my first interview with M'Cullum, whose appearance was *much against him*, and instantly made a very unfavorable impression on my mind as to the purity of his intentions towards my

personal safety. I am not disposed to be severe on Mr. M'Cullum, but I must confess, he looked more like a *Servant of the Sheriff* than the confidential friend of a gentleman and a member of parliament. On the immediate recollection, however, that he had been sent by his friend and *associate*, Sir Richard Phillips, my fears and surprise ceased, as I had no reason to expect any person from him, above the character I saw before me.

Mr. M'Cullum opened the business of his visit, by saying—that he came from col. Wardle, a member of parliament, and a man of great integrity and abilities; that he was employed by him to write a pamphlet* against the duke of York; and to convince me of these facts, he took from his pocket several proof sheets of the work, and also some franks with the colonel's signature. He added, that the principal object of his visit was to solicit permission for col. Wardle to have an interview with me, on the following day at one o'clock. Believing then that I was secure from the annoyance of the person I took M'Cullum to be, I promised him that I would be at home to colonel Wardle, at the appointed time. Accordingly at one, on the succeeding day, I received the *immaculate patriot*, who, after the customary ceremonies of reciprocal civility, seated himself, and continued with me from one till my dinner time, about six o'clock.

It may be necessary for me to mention that during this visit, major Dodd was waiting for him in the neighborhood, and feeling his patience nearly ex-

* An infamous pamphlet, entitled "Observations on his royal highness the duke of Kent's *shameful* persecution since his recall from Gibraltar; together with an enquiry into the abuses of the royal military college, proving that seminary to be a Job, and an imposition on the public. Also, remarks on the wise generals in the British army; with a proof of colonel Gordon's ingratitude.—By Pierre Frere M'Cullum, Esq. Author of "*Travels in Trinidad*," &c. &c.

hausted, went to his *virtuous* friend, *Mr. Hague* who is one of the great ornaments of this political party.

The colonel opened the business of his visit, by observing, that he had been endeavoring to find me for some time, and expressed the pleasure and satisfaction he felt at the happy result of his exertions. He enquired of me, whether I had seen his name in the proceedings of the last session of parliament, when the cloathing* of the army had become a subject of discussion in the house, in consequence of his having discovered abuses in this province of the public expenditure. I told him I recollected the circumstance; when he continued to observe, that it was his intention to proceed to a full exposure of all the abuses in the state which he could possibly discover; but that his *principal and grand aim was directed at the Commander in Chief*, of whom, it had been reported, I was in possession of much valuable information, which I acquired while living under his protection.

He then declared, that if I would give him all the information he wished in order to DISPLACE the duke of York—MYSELF and FAMILY SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR IN ANY WAY I THOUGHT PROPER TO POINT OUT. The subsequent conduct of this sage politician, has shown with what eagerness he determines upon and carries into execution, any thing that at the moment strikes his HEATED imagination as *good and political*.

His foolish address to the people of England, as well as many other acts of absurdity might be cited, to show how incautious he is in the management of his political plans. This preliminary remark is perhaps necessary for me to make, in order to obtain credit of my readers for stating the possibility of a rational creature being such a fool, as on his *first*

* In the progressive stages of this work I shall shew col. Warde's connexion and partnership with mr. Scot, the army clothier, of Cannon row, Westminster, which will account for his discussing this question in parliament, and the interest he had in it.

visit to a stranger, to enter fully into *the nature and particulars* of his views—Cataline understood his business better.

The delusions of hope, however, had so inflamed his poor head, that he could not conceal any thing that was connected with his meditated *plan of destroying* the reputation of his royal highness the duke of York; and accordingly proceeded with the narrative of his intended parliamentary labors, by observing, that he was sure I must know, from having been so long in intimacy with the duke of York, that he had a *dislike* to his brother the duke of Kent, and that illustrious personage (as a much injured man) had a determined *hatred* to the duke of York, for not having allowed him a court martial on his recall from his command at Gibraltar, in order to clear his character;—I replied, that to this circumstance I was not a stranger, but that I had been informed, that if the duke of York had complied with the request of his royal brother, he would have been found guilty of the charges preferred against him, and consequently would have been deprived of the government of that fortress, by which he would have lost several thousands a year, and therefore, that which the duke of Kent had felt as a *great hardship*, the duke of York had done from the pure sentiments of brotherly affection. The colonel then said, he should feel greatly obliged to me for the heads of all the *conversations* I ever had with the duke of York upon this subject, or the *observations* which that illustrious personage had made at any time on his brother's conduct, *as he had much interest in a pamphlet* that was coming out from the pen of his friend, M'Cullum, whom he had sent to me.

The reader may naturally suppose that such an application was of too serious a nature for any playfulness of remark on my part; or even, for a time, the interruption of the monosyllable of YES or NO, to his progressive observations, as my mind was then busily engaged

upon the consequence of that which I might do by an incautious observation, I therefore heard with patience the developement of his plan.

Now for the grand object of his visit, which was, (as he stated) that as he was going to serve the duke of Kent by endeavoring *to turn* the duke of York out of *office*, and as he knew that I was acquainted with all the secrets of that illustrious personage, he was desirous of knowing the *terms* upon which his royal highness and myself then stood. I told him the terms were certainly favorable to his wishes, as the duke had deserted me, and neglected his promises;—I should, however, decline entering into any narrative of my misfortunes, or the disclosure of the duke's affairs, until I had consulted my friends on so serious a subject; and was also better acquainted with the character of my visitor. The colonel assured me of the sincerity of his intentions, and said, that the *duke of Kent knew*, and was *interested* in all the *circumstances attending* the nature of his visit to me, and *would sanction* all the proceedings resulting from our acquaintance; with respect to which, if I had any doubt he would bring such a letter from the duke's *private and confidential secretary*, major Dodd, as would immediately remove all doubts from my mind with respect to the protection he would afford to me, as a *requital* for my *important services*.

The apparent candor of his professions began to lessen my reserve, which led me into a greater freedom of communication, and induced me to make him acquainted with the nature of the duke's promises, and the way they had been neglected with respect to myself, and my relation, captain Thompson.

He took out his pocket-book, and made minutes of all that I had said, under a promise to communicate my exact situation to major Dodd, in order that they might prepare themselves to *exceed in liberality* all that I expected from the duke of York. My circumstances, as I have just observed, were not in a

state to treat col. Wardle's offer of protection to me and my children with neglect, and as my feelings were at that time greatly irritated at the treatment I had experienced, I was actuated by my necessities, and that treatment, to give my assent to a political acquaintance with this party, upon the proposed terms. Before the colonel took his leave, he requested me in future, to receive him under the name of *Brown*, as the publicity of his real name among my servants might tend to defeat the great work in which he was ardently engaged.

I have since understood that the name of *Brown* is very familiar to colonel Wardle, and has proved as convenient a travelling name, as that of *captain*, which is so common to London adventurers.

Among the variety of his pursuits, I have been informed, that he once lived under this name, at the Cadogan Coffee House, Sloan-street, with his favorite lady!!!—Believe me reader, I do not mean Mrs. Wardle.

Perhaps those who read this passage, will with the mingled passion of anger and astonishment, throw down the book, and exclaim—good heavens! is it possible, that colonel Wardle, the god of the people and the reformer of nations, should *keep a lady*?—He who exposed and censured domestic infidelity in a prince, be himself a sinner?—No, no, it cannot be; colonel Wardle could not act in such direct opposition to the purity of his professions, and leave an amiable wife, by whom he has *acquired all his pecuniary* consequence, for the society of another.—But stop, reader, and hear facts before you give too much credit to this *hero's virtues*.

Believe me the patriot is like other men, subject to human frailties, but which, he can disguise with *more art* than other men, when it answers his political purposes.

He can in scornful and severe language reprobate the follies and vices of others, when it is his business

to raise himself on the ashes of his victims, although every stripe of his satirical lash might with greater justice be applied to his own back.

But now to the fact, as I received it, from unquestionable authority. A short time after colonel Wardle's election at Oakhampton, he made a journey into Wales, with his *Chère amie* and her young family;* and on their return to London, resided at the above Coffee-House at Chelsea, under the name of *Brown*.

During their stay at this place, a gentleman, who had given his vote in favor of colonel Wardle at Oakhampton, said to the tavern keeper—"I find, sir, you have got colonel Wardle and family here as your guests:"—"Colonel Wardle," replied the host with surprise, "Oh no, sir! the gentleman you just now saw pass, is a mr. *Brown*."—Observed the gentleman, "I know better—his name is Wardle—and what is more, I gave him my vote for Oakhampton, and have since dined with him."

This information produced an inquiry, which in a few hours reached the ears of the *correct family man*, colonel Wardle, who immediately ordering his carriage, left the house, and I am informed, the *draft* which he gave the tavern keeper for the amount of his bill, was not paid in the most *regular way*.

When colonel Wardle was in the habit of visiting Westborne Place, I used to indulge in a little railery on his *fair mistress*, which naturally enough produced observations from him with respect to her.

On one of these occasions of mirth, he burst into a paroxysm of amatory passion, and exclaimed—"that his mistress was so *fair and young*, that he did not suffer the air of heaven to blow on her!!!"—If she be the same lady who now calls herself miss Davis, of Gloucester-street, Queen Square, colonel Wardle

* Colonel Wardle has also children by his wife, which obliges him to keep up two establishments.

is not so particular as to the *purity of the air* that has lately *blown upon her*. This delicate creature has, upon a late occasion, been running into every dirty place, with Ellis the attorney, in order to purchase whatever kind of evidence could be picked up, to support colonel Wardle's late prosecution.

Major Dodd did not suffer colonel Wardle's angelic creature to live undisturbed by the *gentle air of heaven*, without participating with me in a desire to see her, and accordingly urged me to press the colonel to introduce us to his favorite lady, which I did; but colonel Wardle would not comply with my request, from (I believe) motives of jealousy, and a conviction of the superiority of major Dodd's *person*; which might have produced a strange *alteration* in the lady's mind as to the personal beauty of her *happy colonel*.

Colonel Wardle told me, that the father of this fair lady had applied to him to make a regular provision for his daughter, who had been the victim of his improper passion; but he desired her to acquaint her father of *his real character and situation* in life, and that his whole dependence *rested on his wife's* fortune which would not admit of any burthens being affixed to it, by way of an annuity to this young lady.

As, therefore, nothing but secrecy could benefit the old man's daughter, he of course has remained quiet for the sake of all the parties concerned.

Mark, reader! what a return for a *fortune* to an amiable and affectionate wife, and a mother of seven children!!! Pause, and ask yourself, whether colonel Wardle be *quite* that immaculate character which he has labored so much to make the public believe him entitled.

Ah! deluded woman, was it for this you loved and married a *beggar*?—Was it for this you have virtuously cherished and reared a numerous offspring?—Was it for this you have encountered many sleepless nights to further your husband's political views?

—Was it for this you risked your character and personal safety, by going in a barouche* to a certain tavern, and leaving that celebrated letter which astonished the whole kingdom?—Was it for this you attended the court of king's Bench, in anxious expectation that your supposed faithful husband would triumph in his black deeds, and that perjury upon perjury would obtain him the laurel† with which his friend sir Richard Phillips and his other associates had prepared to entwine his brow on that memorable day, when a British jury shewed that it was not to be duped by a jacobinical faction.

Was it for all this I say, mrs. Wardle, that your

* Major Hogan's pamphlet shows the proceedings of a supposed female friend of the duke of York's who went to Frank's Hotel, lower Brook-Street, in a barouche, and left a letter for major Hogan, in which he found a five hundred pound bank note. This barouche-lady, colonel Wardle acknowledged to me, was no other person than his *dear wife*.—*But there was no harm* in such an act, it was merely a *little generalship, which sheds a lustre on modern patriotism*.

† It is unnecessary for me to enter into a discription of the *disgraceful riot and disturbance* which took place in Westminster Hall, on the day of my trial, as the interruption Lord Ellenborough met with, in the administration of justice is now pretty generally known to the public, as well as the spirited instructions of his Lordship to the under Sheriff upon that occasion. But I cannot avoid giving publicity to the *private information* I have since received of the *grand procession* which was prepared to attend col. Wardle if I had been convicted on that day. The plaintiff's *respectable and numerous* friends, who disturbed the public peace, and insulted the sacred tribunal of justice, were, I am informed, to have CHAIRED the victorious colonel, and carried him amidst the shouts of a mob and the din of butchers' music, to the house of sir Richard Phillips, from the drawing room window of which, he was to have made a *flaming speech* to the *friends of freedom*. This would have afforded a most delectable treat to sir Richard Phillips, who is considered the most *vain-glorious* character in the kingdom. I forbear using the words of the attorney-general on the trial of *sir John Carr versus Vernor and Hood*, who said the knight "was the greatest fool in the kingdom," but, I may be pardoned, I hope, if I join in opinion with Lord Ellenborough, who corrected sir V. Gibbs on that occasion, and said, "No, no, mr. attorney-general, YOU MEAN THE WEAKEST MAN."

husband has made you such an *unkind return*, as to divide that love and tenderness, of which, your good qualities and fortune ought to have made you sole mistress. But, madam, be not any longer deceived ; colonel Wardle has returned to you that which he has returned to others, namely, *EVIL for GOOD*.

In the course of a few days after Colonel Wardle's first visit to me, he brought the following *promised* letter from major Dodd, the private and confidential secretary to the duke of Kent, and with great gravity told me to keep it, and upon the good faith of a gentleman, *all the promises* made to me, he would see performed, even at the risk of his life ; and repeatedly pledged his honor, that he would not suffer any thing he had promised, to be infringed on by those with whom he was concerned :—

“ *Sloan street, Nov. 21, 1808.*

“ MY DEAR WARDLE,

“ THE more I reflect on the conversation we had this morning, and which, had for its object the pure honor and interest of our country, the more I feel convinced that every individual who is assisting in the great cause, is entitled, not only to our *private* but to public *protection*.—These, I am fully convinced, are your sentiments as well as mine ; they must indeed, be those of every honest well thinking man. If this assurance from me can be of any service, you have my authority to use it as you please, *for what you mentioned of a certain female*.

“ I have no hesitation in believing that *her co-operation* will be more material than that of any other human being. God knows she has been infamously and most barbarously treated by an illustrious *great beast* ; but she may now have an opportunity of redressing her *wrongs* ; and by serving a generous public, most essentially *to benefit herself* :

“ I remain,

“ My dear Wardle, ever

(Signed)

“ THOS. DODD.”

During the interval between col. Wardle's first and second visit to me, I consulted mr. Stokes upon the subject, who advised me not to encounter all the unpleasant difficulties, that would necessarily attach to the kind of service required of me, without being satisfied that I should receive a handsome compensation for my trouble.

On the receipt of this letter, the nature of my services and the remuneration I expected, again became the subject of discussion, in which colonel Wardle declared, that he had laid all my expectations before major Dodd, who had authority from the duke of Kent, to assure me, that I should have more than the annuity of *four hundred a year*, as promised by the duke of York. That they would make me so far independent, as to enable me, if I chose, to keep my COACH and FOUR, and an establishment equal to the style and elegance of my equipage.

I now requested him to repeat the particulars of the remuneration the duke of Kent intended to make for my services; he said, that he and major Dodd would hold themselves responsible for the duke of Kent giving FIVE THOUSAND POUNDS; besides FOUR HUNDRED A YEAR secured to me—my DEBTS ALL DISCHARGED—AND A HOUSE FURNISHED IN ANY STYLE OF ELEGANCE I PLEASED.

All this did not quite satisfy me as to the sincerity of their professions. I therefore told colonel Wardle, that I would not *lend* myself to the projects of any set of men, unless I had very good assurance of their *honor and liberality*; proofs of which must be given to me in the most unequivocal manner, and that I also wished to see major Dodd, in order to hear what HE COULD URGE IN JUSTIFICATION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS IN WHICH HE WAS ENGAGED.

Colonel Wardle agreed to the propriety of my seq-

ing major Dodd, and then entered upon their intended visit to the Martello towers; urging me to accompany them, when he promised to introduce me to the major and mr. Glennie;—and after presenting me with a *hundred pounds* for my immediate use, and receiving my assent to the journey, he left me.

Impressed with a belief that this political connexion would again restore me to my former state of influence and comfort, and at the desire of colonel Wardle, who wished me to reside more to the westward of the town, for the convenience of major Dodd and himself, while he was proceeding in the house of commons, upon my promised information; I took possession of my present house in Westborne place.

As nothing at this time beyond the *hundred pounds and promises* had been bestowed on me, I only asked mr. Wright to send in a few necessary articles of furniture, till I *could introduce* to him a gentleman who was to furnish me a house as my taste and inclination might direct. This, mr. Wright accordingly did after I had made him acquainted with some of the circumstances relating to that gentleman's political views, and the service I was to afford to him, as an equivalent for his gifts.

To have left my house in Bedford place, which was very convenient as well as complete in point of furniture, for an empty house in Westborne place, would have appeared very strange to mr. Wright, unless I had let him a *little* into the *secret* of my proceedings. This will account for my having been obliged, to place a confidence in him, with respect to the friendship I was to receive from colonel Wardle, whose *name* I had not then made known to mr. Wright.

Previous to the morning I was to leave London for the *Martello Towers*, I had got the promise of a young lady to accompany me on this journey, who not coming, after colonel Wardle and myself had

waited for her* an hour over her appointment, we set off from Westborne Place, leaving our address, if she came to my house in any reasonable time. When we had arrived at colonel Wardle's coach-maker's, Charles-street, Middlesex Hospital, I, for the first time in my life, saw major Dodd and mr. Glennie, who were at this place waiting for us, and after the formalities of an introduction had passed, colonel W. in compliment to me, waited some time for my companion. In consequence of having waited near two hours for this lady, the day was too far advanced in this dark season of the year to admit of our going so far as was intended; we therefore, were obliged to stay that night at Maidstone, which place we left early on the next morning for the neighborhood of the Martello Towers, where we soon arrived.

Mr. Glennie, who appeared perfectly well acquainted with the topography of the neighborhood, and all the military works established on this part of the coast, wrote a note under (I believe) a false name, to solicit permission for him and his friends to see the Martello Towers, which with some difficulty was obtained.

The day being frosty and fine, I accompanied them thither, when Mr. Glennie took out his pocket-book, and after many enquiries on the part of major Dodd and himself, he took minutes of every particular relating to the construction of these military works, all of which he surveyed with a *geometrical* accuracy, and a *malicious* satisfaction.

A number of workmen were employed in repairing these works, the foundation of which appeared to have given way, and of which, mr. Glennie spoke in very severe terms, as an ineffectual obstruction to the landing of the enemy, and consequently an unnecessary expence to the country.

* As my companion did not come, I expressed a wish to take my maid. but this was opposed, as the colonel thought it would be dangerous to speak before her.

While we were surveying these military works, I found by the *silly* questions colonel Wardle put to mr. Glennie and major Dodd, that he was perfectly ignorant of the art of *fortification*; and indeed the difficulty was considerable, on their part, to make him understand the defects attending the construction of the various military works which came under our inspection. We now proceeded to the Royal Military Canal, which begins on Romney Marsh, and runs twenty miles along the country.

The defects attending the formation of this line of defence, were also spoken of by mr. Glennie and major Dodd in very harsh terms; and while they were privately committing to paper all the prominent imperfections of its construction, one of the officers of the engineers belonging to the works, fell into a conversation with mr. Glennie, upon the subject, and gave him some useful information.

On our return to dinner, at Hythe, the reader may naturally enough conceive, that the object of the journey formed the chief topic of discussion, in which colonel Wardle could not take a *distinguished part*, unless it was *from his entire ignorance* of that branch of mathematics which includes fortification.

When the cloth was removed, and the wine in circulation, I was gradually raised into great mirth, as it became the task of mr. Glennie and major Dodd, to make colonel Wardle understand the true principle of the Martello Towers, and what ought to have been the construction of the military canal; and in what points they were defective and useless, as a defence of this part of the coast.

The task of teaching a dull child the first elements of a language, or science, is nothing compared with the *trouble and whimsical difficulties*, that attended Glennie and Dodd's explanation and illustration of the subject, upon which the immaculate patriot was to *make a luminous speech*, in the house of Commons.

Heaven only knows how he at last got it into his head for oral description in parliament, for on the

day of which I am speaking, it appeared to require a *hammer*, to beat in the difference between an *octagon* and a *triangle*.

Nothing of any moment occurred on our journey back to town, where we arrived safe after four days absence. Col. Wardle was set down at his own house, and after I arrived at mine, major Dodd and Mr. Glennie took leave of me for their respective dwellings.

From this time till I gave up the idea of publishing my *memoirs*, colonel Wardle and his party were constantly with me, in order, as *they said*, to prevent any one from endeavoring to dissuade me from affording them, that support, which was so important to their cause.

My enemies were now putting, every kind of unhandsome and false construction upon my acquaintance with colonel Wardle, that malice and ingenuity could suggest; but I feel a consciousness of not having deserved the slander that was dealt out so liberally against me, and though it is now *political*, for colonel Wardle to *forget and deny* his promises, yet in *this particular*, I think, he will not have the hardihood even to insinuate any thing to the prejudice of my private conduct, as a woman and a mother.

Our acquaintance was merely of a political nature, and only had for its object the business which came before the house of Commons. Indeed col. Wardle was too much absorbed in love of his *fair mistress* and the great work in which he had embarked, to think of any thing *besides* her, and the duke of York's destruction; and, I doubt not, but the reader will think with me, that between *love and war*, he had quite enough to engage the *tender* as well as the *malignant* passions of his soul, without making me an object of personal admiration.

Mr. Taylor, the shoe-maker of Bond-street, of whom the public heard so much in the character of *Morocco Ambassador*, was in the habit of calling at Westbone place, and as col. Wardle and major Dodd

had heard me say that he was the repository of some of the duke's secrets, they expressed a wish to have a conversation with him, under as much disguise as possible; accordingly, I introduced Dodd to the lady's shoe-maker, as a tradesman, under a *false name*, and in order that they should soon become familiar with each other, I informed Dodd, that Mr. Taylor was an excellent draught player, and not a little fond of being considered a proficient in this science, which produced the immediate exertion of their skill upon the draught-board.

The *ambassador* soon found that his companion could not play, which rendered the game flat and uninteresting to both of them. Dodd was therefore driven to another expedient, to obtain a *freedom* of conversation, and accordingly asked Mr. Taylor to take a glass of brandy and water, which he made of nearly all brandy, and forced it upon him as fast as possible. This, for a time, had the desired effect, as it made the *ambassador* very loquacious, and unreserved in his *answers* to major Dodd, with respect to the duke of York's affairs.

Major Dodd did not manage this business with that policy that was necessary to its success. Instead of coming in a coat with plain buttons, he had on one with the buttons usually worn by the secretaries of the royal dukes, and thus he defeated the object of his interview with the *morocco ambassador*; for, the moment he noticed major Dodd's buttons, he became very cautious, gave a different turn to his observations with respect to the duke of York, and stole away as soon as he conveniently could.

On the following day, however, the doubtful companion of the ambassador was no longer an object of suspicion, in consequence of his meeting major Dodd in company with a lady; and seeing a man take off his hat to them, of whom he soon made some enquiries, and heard that the tradesman was no less a personage than major Dodd, the *faithful* secretary to his

royal highness the duke of Kent. Doubtless this circumstance, as well as a variety of information, was communicated to the duke of York, through the medium of this convenient character, whose stories obtained belief without the due attention of his royal highness; otherwise, measures might have been resorted to, that would have nipped colonel Wardle's honors in the bud.

I have thought it right to make this short digression, to shew the *praise-worthy expedients* to which major Dodd has resorted, in order to serve the cause of his royal master.

Our acquaintance had now proceeded sufficiently far to convince colonel Wardle and major Dodd, that *without me*, all their schemes to displace the duke of York would prove abortive, and therefore I was scarcely left an hour in the day to myself. While major Dodd was gone to the duke of Kent with information respecting me, either mr. Glennie or col. Wardle, was *left on guard*, and during the severe weather in last January twelvemonth, major Dodd was CONSTANTLY GOING TO AND FROM THE DUKE OF KENT, AT EALING, TO ME AT WESTBORNE PLACE, ON THE BUSINESS OF DISPLACING HIS ROYAL BROTHER.

One evening, while col. Wardle and myself were waiting the return of major Dodd, from Ealing, their promise to me became the subject of our conference, when I recollected that I had omitted to include in my agreement with him and the major, the debt due to my attorney, mr. Comrie, of £1012. Colonel Wardle expressed the *anger of a friend* at my forgetfulness and neglect, but *made a minute* of the particulars, and wished to know whether there was any thing else to harrass my mind, as I might rest assured that neither the duke of Kent, major Dodd, nor himself, would suffer the peace of my mind to be disturbed by the dread of a legal process.

The colonel continued to assure me, that if he *had*

the purse, he should feel as disposed as the duke of Kent had professed to be (through the medium of major Dodd and himself) to do those things (for which he and major Dodd had become responsible, as far as the honor of *gentlemen* could render them so) and satisfy me—but, he was sorry to observe, that he was a *poor man*, and had *two families to support*, otherwise he would instantly advance the money.

To these circumstances I was no stranger, and therefore did not *look to him individually*, for any thing beyond the payment of my furniture in West-borne place, for which he was the most prominent and tangible security; but I did not expect he would have pledged *his honor* as a *gentleman*, to see those promises made good, which *induced* me to stand up in the house of commons against a royal duke, and incur all the anxiety and calumny attaching to a witness under such circumstances, without obliging his political colleagues to fulfil *their engagement* to the extent of its spirit and letter.

I am of opinion that there is not a person in England, at all acquainted with the proceedings of the house of commons, with respect to the duke of York and my connexion with Wardle and his party, who is so *credulous* as to *believe* what colonel Wardle has lately *endeavored* to make the people of England credit as a *divine revelation*; namely, *that I incurred the exposure of myself, children, and family, together with abuse, anxiety of mind, and fatigue of person during my examination in parliament from a pure PATRIOTIC ZEAL TO SERVE THE PUBLIC.*

If there should be a person in the country that indulges such an opinion of my *patriotism*, he must be the most *insane*, or the most weak man that ever lived:—nay, even (if it be possible) weaker than sir Richard Phillips.

If I were to tell the same *gross falsehood* which has issued from the immaculate col. Wardle, and compli-

ment myself on having appeared against the duke of York, without any motives of *interest*, beyond the gratification of *serving* the public, I am sure the intelligent reader would consider me a most *impudent hypocrite*, and with great justice; for if I had not been well satisfied of receiving the remuneration agreed upon, not all the jacobinical parties in Europe should have introduced my letters and person to the notice of parliament.

So anxious was colonel Wardle to please me in every particular that he thought would operate agreeably upon my feelings, and induce me to be *communicative* with respect to the duke of York, that he advised me to stipulate with the duke of Kent, through the medium of major Dodd, for *one* of the unfinished houses in Hamilton place, Piccadilla;—observing with his usual sagacity, that if *princes wish* to be served, and at *such risks*, *they must pay for it*, and he, was sure the duke of Kent would not *refuse his little mortgage* any thing!*

As far as the information I collected from colonel Wardle and major Dodd will enable me to speak correctly; I cannot refrain from laying before the reader, *the expectations of the colonel*, on the duke of Kent's being appointed commander in chief of the army—a station in the country he was anxious to obtain by *every means* in his power, as may be seen, by the preceding part of this narrative.

Be assured, reader, that colonel Wardle did not join in the meditated destruction of the duke of York's reputation from the love of his country, and his sensibility of the public sufferings:—believe me, his patriotism was nourished by other *motives*, more endearing to the *ambitious* mind, than those of disinterested zeal for the *rights of man*, and the *reformation of abuses*.

* As soon as colonel Wardle had got over the little ceremonies attendant on a first acquaintance, he called me the Duke of Kent's little mortgage.

Perhaps, when I name the high place of trust, which was *assigned* to him in the book of *rewards*, for *particular acts* of service, many of his friends may regret, that the politics of the day, have not *introduced* him to the office of secretary at war, which col. Wardle said the duke of Kent promised him, through his influence, on being made commander in chief of the army.

Major Dodd affected to *despise* the idea of reward, and endeavored to persuade me, that he was of that school of philosophy which only does good for the *love* of good, and is unacquainted with the *base and sordid* principle of the *golden lever*, which appears more effectually to move the world, than the boasted mechanical powers of Archimedes, who only wanted a place to stand upon to raise the earth; but if the learned geometrician were living in this *enlightened age*, he would be soon satisfied that the present race of ingenious Britons, are greatly improved in *mechanics*, and now understand the *raising* of *small and large bodies*, better than the ancients did, and upon a more certain principle; namely, when we want to *raise the world we need only raise the wind!*

This generous creature, the major, declared, that if the duke of Kent should be so fortunate, as to remove his royal brother, from the command of the army, and be able to *slip* into his *station*, he would immediately retire from office, and reside in the country, where he might enjoy the *delectable* gratification of having been the *means* of serving one of the most *virtuous*, but ill-treated men that ever lived, and of seeing his royal master in a situation, in which he *ought to have been, long ago*, and for which his *great talents* were calculated to prove of the first importance.

I think he told me, that the salary which he received from Gibraltar was under two thousand a year; and that he had objected to take any pecuniary reward, for his private and confidential secretaryship,

in consequence of the great friendship he entertained for the duke of Kent. I must confess, that I had no reason to doubt major Dodd's word upon this point, though he has studied in the school of Phillips, and acquired much valuable instruction under that *great professor of trick*, and example of *convenient memory*.

Never were letters written to any man, which breathed such affectionate regard, as those of the duke of Kent to major Dodd. It being necessary to satisfy me that major Dodd had not deceived, with respect to the **AUTHORITY** he had from this high personage, to **ENGAGE** and **REMUNERATE** my services in the house of commons; the major brought me many of the duke's letters to read, not only with respect to myself, but upon other matters; all of which gave positive assurance of his sincere friendship for his private secretary.

Much curious matter is now coming under the description of my pen, which it will narrate with every respect to truth, though governed by a *prudent circumspection*.

It may be necessary to observe, that colonel Warde gave notice of a motion in the house of commons with respect to the commander in chief, on the first day of the meeting of parliament, January 21, 1809.

The proceedings of the colonel were now bursting as it were, upon the public attention, and giving birth to a vast variety of speculative observations, *upon what*, might be the probable result of the investigation.

It is very well known, that almost every reflecting person in the kingdom, made the *charges* against the duke of York, a subject of interesting consideration and remark; consequently the duke of Kent must have felt *extraordinary sensations* in proportion as the subject increased in publicity, and gained upon public feeling. Whether it was *conscience* (that inward monitor of the bosom which works strange effects upon the guilty mind) that induced the duke of Kent

to confess in the house of lords, on the 6th of February, that his friendship for his royal brother had been *suspected*;—or whether it was the *purity*, and *effervescence* of his affections for the duke of York, that prompted him to this measure, are questions which I shall leave to the reader to determine:—but certain it is, that he informed the public, through the medium of that august assembly, that *he had a royal brother whom he loved most dearly!*—as may be seen by the following speech:—

House of lords, February 6, 1809.

“ The duke of Kent thought it, at this time, proper to remark, that it had been supposed by many, that he had been at variance with his royal brother, from which an inference had been drawn, that he countenanced the charges brought forward against the commander in chief. Whatever *professional differences* there had been between them, he entertained the *highest respect for his royal brother*, and believed, that he was wholly *incapable of acting* in the manner imputed to him. Instead, therefore, of countenancing such charges, he would do every thing in his power to repel them. On this subject there was no difference of opinion in his family, all the members of *which concurred* in the opinion he *had expressed.*”

To persons who move in the circle of a palace, and have an opportunity of knowing, when *puss accidentally jumps out of the bag*, this speech must have appeared *extravagantly dramatic*; and though it had all the stage effect of which it was capable, it went *off badly*, and I am inclined to believe, was thought but a *sorry performance*.

On reading the duke's speech, I said to major Dodd—Is it possible, that the duke of Kent could have the face, to stand up in the house of lords after all he had done against the duke of York?—“ *Poh!*”

poh!—said Dodd, “that was political; appearances you know, my little lady, must be kept up”—and my royal friend says, “that a man is *never considered guilty* till he be *proved so* ;”—“besides, it would not be prudent for him (of all men) to *avow* his real sentiments at present.” The faithful secretary continued to observe, that he had been requested by the duke of Kent, since his speech in the house of lords, to suspend *all personal* communication with him, till the investigation was over, lest his visits to *Ealing*, should lead to the discovery of proceedings, which might be fatal to the object of their most sanguine wishes. It is absolutely necessary, said the major, that we should be more circumspect than ever in our proceedings; and when I inform you, that his majesty has heard, that I accompanied you the first night, you went to the house of commons, and became *inebriated* with *drinking* success to the great cause, I am sure you will think with me, that there is a necessity of being very cautious, in all we do and say, and for the future I shall not visit Westborne place till the dusk of the day. It appeared, that the king had repeated a variety of observations, that were made on that evening, *all of which were true*; and which induced us to be more circumspect in the future management of our political affairs.

About this time a report got into circulation, and which was perfectly correct, that major Dodd had possession of some of my papers. This gave Dodd great uneasiness, lest other circumstances should come to light with respect to the duke of Kent, that might have an improper tendency; accordingly the major came to Westborne place and said he had something to submit to my consideration, which his royal master esteemed of great importance to the cause, if I would but allow him to carry the *wishes* of the duke into execution.

I observed, that from the way, he had prefaced the object of the duke's solicitation, I was inclined to be-

lieve, it was of a nature, to which I could not lend myself, as I was already satisfied, that he and his friends did not suffer trifling impediments to *stop up* the path to their greatness.

After evading this observation by a laugh, he informed me, that it was the wish of his master, that he should go down to the house of commons, as a *voluntary witness*, and *echo* the *friendly* sentiments which his royal highness had expressed in the house of lords respecting the duke of York, in order to preserve appearances, and clothe their real proceedings in mystery.

There appeared so much villainy in this effort to blind the public, that I instantly lost my temper, and declared in the strongest terms, the moment of irritation supplied, that if major Dodd *dared* to become the tool of such an iniquitous act, I would sacrifice all my expectations of *reward*, by a full exposure of their *extraordinary* proceedings, against the duke of York, the next time I should be examined in the house of commons.

The major paused some time upon this *unexpected reply*, and then observed, that he would communicate my sentiments to the duke, who (he was afraid) would feel greatly disappointed at the result of his visit, that evening, to Westborne Place; he, however, could not leave the house, without assuring me, that he had urged every argument in his power, to dissuade the duke, from *obliging* him, to echo the *sentiments* of his speech in the house of commons, as a *voluntary witness* thinking as he did, that such a measure would only *create suspicion*, and induce the public to give the subject an *unnecessary attention*.

On the following evening, major Dodd repeated his visit to Westborne place, and again resumed the subject, by informing me, that he had told the duke of Kent, of my opposition to his intended statement in the house of commons, and that his royal highness, had *hit* upon another expedient, to conceal their plan

of operations, and impose upon the duke of York, and the credulity of *the public*.

On asking him what other wickedness his fertile genius had suggested, as necessary, for his *good* patron to employ against the commander in chief, he told me that his royal friend, *begged* I would not oppose his measure in *spirit and principle*, if I did in *manner and form*; that it now assumed a *less objectionable* shape for public notice, and then observed, that he had met with a paragraph in a daily print, which is as follows :—

“ Captain Dodd, who was aid-de-camp to the duke of Kent, who was also major of brigade under his royal highness, has been removed from his situations, in consequence of what came out on mr. Donovan’s evidence before the house of commons.”

And which gave him an opportunity of publicly denying any political acquaintance with me, in a letter to the editor of the Morning Chronicle, which as *I did not* seriously object to, he gave the same evening to mr. Hague, who was instructed to request his friend, mr. Finnerty, to *insert it* in the Morning Chronicle, as early as possible :—

To the editor of the Morning Chronicle.

“ MR. EDITOR,

“ In your paper of the 15th inst. it is stated, I have been removed from the situations I held under his royal highness the duke of Kent; as that statement is altogether unfounded, I must request you to insert this contradiction of so FALSE and INJURIOUS a paragraph; I ALSO MOST SOLEMNLY DECLARE, THAT I NEVER DID DIRECTLY, OR INDIRECTLY, apply to mrs. Clarke for the possession of ANY PAPER OR DOCUMENT WHATEVER !!

I am, sir,

Your humble servant,

THOMAS DODD.”

Sloane Street,
March 16th, 1809.

Pray reader, reflect upon this SOLEMN declaration to the public, as coming from a *gentleman* in the *high station of private and confidential secretary to a prince*; —then compare it with the following letter, and the other documents of this narrative. It would be an insult to the understanding of my reader, if I were to dwell at any length upon this part of my subject, in order to show major Dodd's *character* in a clearer point of *light*, than these documents *illustrate*:—

“ *Tuesday Morning.*

“ MY DEAR MRS. CLARKE,

“ I have been so ill these two days that I have not been able to quit the house, excepting for half an hour yesterday. I have looked out every paper in my desk, *where the letters are contained*, to find those you alluded to, but I cannot meet with them, *and as I always kept the whole carefully tied up in two parcels*, it seems to me *impossible* that any could fall out. I perfectly, however, recollect a french letter, but none from princess S.— therefore, you may be sure it never was in my possession, for I have been extremely particular in returning you every paper which you ENTRUSTED to my charge. I will, however, *rummage* once more, and *if I find any thing*, I will bring it to you to-morrow forenoon, when I expect to be able to have the pleasure to see you.

Your's, most truly,

T. D.”

I have since regretted exceedingly that I did not embrace the opportunity I then had, of exposing and shaking off my acquaintance with this *honorable* party, who have introduced me and every one connected with them, into nothing but disgrace and misfortune,

and who appear like the poisonous tree* of the east, which does not suffer any thing to flourish within its baneful influence.

If the reader should consider my comparison, as conveying too much personal severity, he must call to his recollection, that these persons were not satisfied, with injuring the reputation and happiness of *one individual*, but have endeavored to *disgrace*, and if possible, *destroy* the *only person* who afforded them political consequence, and the power of gratifying an *unnatural* hatred towards a ***** ;—consequently they have been to me, as the fatal tree of which I speak, which lays waste the soil that gave and supports its existence.

Doubtless the man, who had lately the *hardihood*, to stand up in a court of justice, and declare upon oath, that his royal master, was not acquainted with his proceedings against the duke of York, will not *feel much* embarrassment—in *again swearing*, that I have not related the truth, and that, all the preceding pages of this work, are nothing but a catalogue of *gross falsehoods* ;—but I do not fear to make out a *clear case*, and to connect my facts in such a way, as will leave no doubt upon the mind of my readers, though disposed to scepticism, that my narrative will be a faithful portrait of the respective persons that have come under the feeble powers of my pencil to delineate.

Though major Dodd, acknowledged in the court of king's bench, that he was concerned with colonel Wardle in the proceedings against the commander in chief (on patriotic principles of course) yet it may be necessary to produce a few of his *notes* to me, in order to show *how far* he was interested in the investigation, and *mixed up* in every *part* of the conspiracy :—The following are a specimen :—

* The *Bohun Upas* tree, on the island of Java, of which dr. Darwin gives a long and curious account, in the second volume of his " Loves of the Plants."

“ Ask Donovan where the money was lodged by Tonyn £500; and where Tucker’s ?”

“ Ask when Dowler was made commissary ?”

“ Do write, or see Thynne, and enquire respecting the exchange between knight and Pleydell.”

“ Bring the papers from Bedford Place—French’s.”

“ MY DEAR MRS. CLARKE,

“ I called yesterday at Glennie’s for the papers, but he is gone to Woolwich, and will not return till Saturday evening; I will see him on Sunday morning.

Your’s, always,
T. T

Tuesday Morning.

In consequence of having written to major Dodd for some pecuniary assistance, to relieve the immediate necessities of a relation, I received the following notes, which show that we were then upon terms of intimacy and friendship :

“ I am this moment returned from money hunting, without being able to get any ; I declare I have only *six pounds*, and I have enclosed you five.

God bless you,

Your’s, &c. &c.

(Signed)

DARLING.*

“ MY DEAR MRS. CLARKE,

“ I intended answering your letter in person, not having had the pleasure of seeing you for some days, but as your servant says you are immedi-

* Major Dodd subscribed this name in ridicule of the mode of address usually adopted towards me by the duke of York.

ately going out, and I have not yet began to dress, and not being very well, I fear I may detain you, I therefore hasten to say, that I really would most willingly comply with your request, had I any cash by me, but I have been cruelly disappointed lately in money matters, and am at this moment much inconvenienced on that account. I feel very severely for capt. Thompson's distressing situation, and would readily relieve him if I could.

Believe to be,

Your's, very faithfully,

T. D.*

It is not my intention in working up a portrait of major Dodd, to show him in *false colors*;—yet, in justice to myself, I am bound to throw sufficient light upon those parts of the picture that are necessary to render a faithful representation of the man.

I will take the liberty of relating a further proof of major Dodd's political acquaintance with me, and his having my letters in his possession.

While under my last examination in the house of commons, mr. Whitbread asked me, to produce those letters which the duke of York had written to me, after our separation. I informed him, that I would send them down to the house by my coachman, the moment I got home. This, however, did not appear a satisfactory answer, which induced the house* to express a wish, that I should be accompanied by a messenger, who might return with the letters immediately.

This proposal I *cluded*, from a knowledge that major Dodd had those very letters in *his possession*, to shew to the duke of Kent. If the house had *persisted* in sending a messenger with me on that occasion, an exposition of all Dodd's operations must have ensued, and the whole affair been discovered.

* See the minutes of the house of commons, page 465.

Having, however, obtained permission of the house to go for these letters alone, I was getting into my carriage, when the earl of Montfort insisted on going with me; and finding, nothing I could urge would *excuse* me, from the honor of his lordship's company, I drove home, and left him in the drawing-room while I slipped off to major Dodd, whom I fortunately found at home; and after acquainting him with the object of mr. Whitbread's request, he brought a bundle of my papers to my house; out of which he selected such letters in my front parlor, as best *suit*ed his views.

The major then *dictated* a letter, as necessary to accompany the parcel to mr. Whitbread, which I wrote, and sent off immediately by my coachman; and thus the whole business was managed so *neatly*, that the earl of Montfort, who came with me as a *spy*, went back in my carriage to the house of commons, as *wise as he came*.

It may occur to the recollection of my reader, that I was asked by some member in the house, whether I had given up my papers to colonel Wardle, in aid of his prosecution of the commander in chief, and that I had replied in the negative, which was certainly the *truth*, as these letters of the duke of York to me, had nothing to do with the business of the investigation, further than to satisfy the house, of the duke's professions of regard and affection for me.

Much time and entreaty were employed, by major Dodd, to obtain these letters, of which he at last got possession, under, however, a *promise* of returning them in a few days—which he did not accomplish until after the business of the duke was terminated.

As major Dodd forms a prominent figure in my picture of this patriotic groupe, he perhaps, would *feel offended* if I were to leave him immediately for the penciling of either of his friends. In compliment, therefore, to the confidential secretary of a prince, I shall not take my brush from his portrait,

till every lineament of his character is faithfully laid on the canvas, to the best of my pictorial powers.

To show with what zeal major Dodd pursued the duke of York, and the cause in which he had with so much ardor embarked, I will repeat his *own relation* of a fact. He informed me, in the presence of colonel Wardle, that he had seen M'Cullum a few days before, and after a conversation upon various circumstances necessary to the success of their plans, he *desired* him to *engage* several persons to perambulate Pall-mall, st. James's-street, the royal exchange, and other great public streets of the metropolis, *with placards*, in order to annoy the duke of York, and give publicity to M'Cullum's pamphlet,* which had been written expressly for that purpose, and to serve the duke of Kent.

These fellows, said Dodd, are now walking about with the *placards*; and colonel Wardle and *myself* have been this day following them up and down Pall-mall, to observe what degree of attention they produced, and I assure you, we have been *much gratified* with their attraction of public curiosity.

On my remonstrating with him for descending to such a paltry and dirty act, he told me, that "nothing could be **DIRTY ENOUGH**, or **LOW ENOUGH**, to be employed against the duke of York."

I believe there is scarcely a military man in the kingdom, who was at Gibraltar during the duke of Kent's command of that fortress, but is satisfied that the duke of York's refusal of a Court Martial to his Royal brother, *afforded an incontestible proof* of his *regard* for the *military* character, and honor of the duke of Kent; for if a Court Martial had been granted to the governor of Gibraltar, I always understood there was but *one* opinion, as to what would have been *the result*; and *then*, the duke of Kent would

* I have given the title of this work in a note to page 11.

have lost several thousands a year, and incurred such public reflections, that would, most probably, have been painful to his *honorable* and *acute* feelings. It was however, this *act of affection* for the duke of Kent, that laid the foundation of that *hatred* which has followed the commander in chief up to the present moment;—and to this *unnatural feeling*, he is solely indebted for all the misfortunes and disgrace to which he has been introduced.

In one of the many conversations which I had with major Dodd and Glennie, upon the meditated ruin of the duke of York, they informed me, that their royal friend had made every endeavor in his power, to *poison the king's ear*, against the commander in chief; but as colonel Taylor was so much about the person of his majesty, all his efforts had proved ineffectual;—and to have *spoken his sentiments* before col. Taylor, would have been very injudicious, as he would have immediately communicated them to the commander in chief: who, though he knew at this time (said these *confidential* and *worthy* patriots) that the duke of Kent was *supporting* persons to *write* against him, and that some parliamentary proceedings were upon the eve of bursting upon the public attention; yet deported himself towards his royal brother, as if they lived but for each other's honor and happiness; and the duke of Kent, to *keep up appearances*, was more particular in his attentions to the duke of York than he had ever been before.

Such were the arts to which the duke of Kent resorted (said Dodd) to lessen his brother in the love and esteem of his royal father, and the people of England.

I was very *curious* to learn every particular relative to my political connexion—as it may be naturally enough supposed I should be—indeed, to find a woman without this usual attendant on her sex, is to see the order of female life inverted, and such

a phenomenon is a wonder in nature, which, though it may beget our astonishment, at *being*, what it ought *not to be*, seldom produces our admiration and esteem, and therefore, as I am in every sense of the word, a woman, the reader will not be surprised at my disposition to be *curious* !

Thus prompted to know all the secret movements of my political friends, I inquired of major Dodd, how he became acquainted with colonel Wardle; and he informed me, that the virtuous mr. Hague was to have had the *honor* of introducing the patriotic colonel to him, but owing to some accident in the time of meeting, mr. Glennie took that *honor* out of mr. Hague's hands, and brought together these *two great characters* for strength of MEMORY and PUBLIC virtue.

Major Dodd's *Chere amie* kept (and perhaps now keeps) a chop-house, or inferior sort of tavern, in the neighborhood of Drury-lane, where he, Hague, Glennie, and other reformers of the state, *privately* assembled to discuss politics, and digest their plan of operations. Colonel Wardle also frequented this house, and in that situation formed some idea of the public furor, which afterwards attended his political opposition to the duke of York.

If I may be excused in applying Sallust's description of the secret meetings during Catiline's conspiracy, to this private party at the chop-house*, I can fancy bowls of wine without the *sanguinary* mixture of the Roman libation, handed about in order to give a solemn effect to their *promises* of fidelity to such acts of policy, as might be expedient to the accomplishment of a GREATER WORK than a PRUDENT writer will DESCRIBE !!!

* Major Dodd and colonel Wardle used to say, of an evening —“Now let us go down to the *blackguards*—we despise these fellows, but they are useful to a conspiracy.”

It may appear somewhat strange to the reader, that I should have quoted an author not generally read by my sex, but that kind of reading usually resorted to by ladies, never engaged my attention. I scarcely know a novel but by name, while historical and political writers have long been the chief authors of my contemplation. This may be accounted for, from having mixed much with persons of the first *rank* and *talents* in the political world, from whose conversation I acquired a taste for books not common to a lady's library, and from whom I also derived considerable intellectual advantage.

It was major Dodd's interest to impress upon my mind, that the duke of Kent possessed every good quality that could dignify the human heart, and exalt the man.

Amidst the great variety of perfections that enlivened the wreaths that Dodd had so liberally entwined round the brow of his royal master, PHILANTHROPY was not the least conspicuous, of which he so often spoke in terms of the highest eulogium, that miss Taylor began *to entertain suspicions* of the verity of his praise ; which induced us to hit upon an expedient, that would at once bring the duke of Kent's benevolence to the test.

In a disguised hand, and under a feigned name, she wrote a most excellent letter* to the duke of Kent, in which she solicited TEN POUNDS, and described the misery of *herself* and *aged sister*, in such an eloquent strain of piteous narrative, that it would have touched the chord of sensibility in the heart of a stone ; but had not (as was suspected) any effect upon major Dodd's *philanthropic* and *benevolent* PATRON.

Though miss Taylor's letter did not produce *one guinea* to the supposed distressed females, it af-

* Miss Taylor is a very accomplished scholar.

furnished a great deal of *private mirth* to us, and obtained from major Dodd, colonel Wardle, and mr. Glennie, repeated assurances of the duke's attention to the mendicant's application, *who felt* for the *distresses* of the *unfortunate*, and *had sent* the poor aged woman, TEN POUNDS.

I think I never shall forget the *hypocritical* face which Dodd put on, when he said, "You see in what estimation the duke of Kent lives among the people, and in what way he is looked up to ;—but it cannot be a matter of wonder, for the most trifling letter from the *humblest* individual in the kingdom, receives his *immediate attention*, and therefore it is *easy* to account for his being the favorite of the people !!!"

After miss Taylor and myself were satisfied with the *number* of falsehoods our little *trick* on the duke had produced, we began to *hoax* his royal Highness's *distinguished* good qualities, in such *pointed* terms, that Dodd soon discovered that we were the authors of the joke against his patron, whom he informed of it—and who afterwards expressed his anger at the liberty which we had taken with him ;—but the fact is, that these *good souls* were ashamed of their own deception and *lies*, and did not know in what way to restore themselves to my good opinion, as GENTLEMEN OF TRUTH AND BENEVOLENCE !—two qualities to which they had proved themselves perfect STRANGERS.

Mingling anecdote with narrative I beg to call my reader's attention again to my pecuniary difference with colonel Wardle, and his amiable associates. A few days after I returned from my visit to the Martello Towers, I understood, that mr. Wright had not seen colonel Wardle, as he was led to *expect* by me, in order to be satisfied of the payment of his bill. On seeing the immaculate patriot, I expressed my surprise that he had not attended to his promise, and satisfied mr. Wright's mind,

in order that no further impediments should stand in the way of having my house furnished agreeable to my inclination, and with all possible despatch.

He attributed his neglect to the hurry of political business, and continuing to profess his usual friendship, agreed to accompany me to Rathbone place,* which he did on the 1st of December, and after having *ordered* such furniture as met with our mutual approbation, he UNDERTOOK for the PAYMENT of mr. Wright's bill. On the following day, major Dodd accompanied me and colonel Wardle to the same warehouse, when we chose the drawing-room carpets, with respect to which, there has since been so much public mirth, on the colonel's selection of a scarlet and bronze. On the succeeding day, December 3d, the colonel went alone to Rathbone place, to enter more fully into the nature of the payment he was to make for my furniture, when he began a conversation† with mr. Daniel Wright, with respect to a bill for £500. It may be necessary to say, mr. Daniel Wright agreed to take a bill at a short date for the above sum, in part of payment for the furniture to be sent to Westborne place. Colonel Wardle hesitated for some time, and then observed upon the difficulty of giving a bill, without the danger of his name being committed with its negotiation; but before he left the house, promised to manage the business agreeably to mr. D. Wright's request.

Mr. Wright still remaining in a state of insecurity with respect to the promised bill, called at Westborne place about the 14th of December, when colonel Wardle happened to be in the house

* To save prolixity of narrative, I avoid repeating the precise words of my evidence, in the court of king's bench—I therefore, shall omit my account of mr. Wright's indisposition, and his confinement to his bed, on colonel Wardle's first visit to Rathbone place.

† See the evidence of Daniel Wright, on the trial of his brother's action against colonel Wardle, &c.

waiting to see me. As soon as I was informed of mr. Wright's visit, I sent word to colonel Wardle that he wished to see him, and the colonel returned for answer, that there was no occasion to see mr. F. Wright, as he *had settled* every thing with his brother Daniel, but he requested to see me upon another business. This answer appeared to me, *like shuffling*, as the narrative of it, no doubt, induces the reader to believe—he *meant to shuffle*; I therefore, repeated my wish, that he would see mr. Wright, and make my mind easy; and after several messages had passed between us, he sent me a note, (*which would since have been of the utmost consequence to me, if it had not been lost*) persisting in the folly of seeing mr. F. Wright, when he had adjusted every thing, *to the satisfaction* of his brother. There appeared something *extraordinary* in this part of the colonel's conduct, which induced me to inform him, that unless he saw mr. Wright, and *satisfied him* with respect to the bill, I should feel offended, and would not see him again; and as there was no alternative but that of seeing my upholsterer, or leaving my house, he accordingly acquiesced, and when I came down stairs, we immediately went to mr. Wright in the front parlor.

The colonel's very cautious behavior on that morning, put me upon the *alert* with respect to my expectations; I therefore thought it prudent to speak a *little freely* before mr. Wright, and opened a conversation, by observing, that col. Wardle had assured me that all my debts should be paid; when mr. Wright said, he hoped I would think of the debt of £500, due to him, while I was under the protection of the duke of York: the colonel observed, he would not undertake to pay *that debt*, but he *would put* him in the way of getting his money; which was, by bringing *an action* against the duke of York. Here the reader may see the colonel, again at work to bring the duke of York

before the public, or at least to *annoy* him in every possible way !—but what will confirm this opinion is, that the colonel *proceeded to assure Wright*, that he would INDEMNIFY *him* for the costs, if he would but attack that illustrious personage by a legal process. It is plain from this advice to mr. Wright, that colonel Wardle did all he could to further the ends of his great patron, who was to return the favor, by *raising him in the state**—I do not mean to make any allusion to that elevated station which is under the immediate *eye* of the *sheriff*; notwithstanding colonel Wardle deserves to be *exalted* !—If such an honor should ever await the *mock* patriot, and it were possible for sir R. Phillips to resume all the *functions* of his late office, what a solemn and interesting colloquy would take place between these *two innocents*, on the *nature of PUBLIC VIRTUE*, and *DYING POPULARITY* !!!—But I will *drop* col. Wardle, in this *line* of public *advancement*, and return to my narrative. To the credit of mr. Wright, be it spoken, that he objected to lend himself to the colonel's malicious proposition, of bringing an action against the duke of York; and there the matter ended.

The principal object of Wright's visit being the *bill*, the conversation was naturally enough turned again to that important point, when colonel Wardle mentioned the following day, as a time that his leisure would allow him to attend to that *particular* business; he then *paused* awhile and again observed, that there was some little difficulty in giving this bill, as the investigation which was coming on before the house of commons, made it a *delicate matter for him to put his own hand to paper* ! the discovery of which might frustrate the business with which mr. Wright had been made acquainted. But, said the colonel, I will go down to

* See page 29.

sir Richard Phillips,* to-morrow morning, and he and some one else will give you their bill without my name appearing!!!

Mr. Wright having obtained a satisfactory understanding with the colonel, departed with a promise to complete the order with all possible expedition.

Some days having elapsed, and mr. Wright not hearing from colonel Wardle as he expected, I felt uneasy at the delay, and *urged* him to keep his promise with my upholsterer, as early as possible, which produced the following letter from the colonel to mr. Glennie, who accordingly waited on mr. Wright :

“ *Eight o'clock, Saturday morning.*

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ You will, after seeing mr. Wright, the upholsterer, Rathbone place, meet major Dodd and myself at Fladong's hotel, about $\frac{1}{4}$ past 12 o'clock.

“ I hope you will be able to prevail upon mr. Wright to let mrs. Clarke know that he will be satisfied to wait till the end of the next month. Do urge to him the *impossibility* of its being arranged as *was proposed*, through the medium of the bookseller,* *without committing mrs. C. and ourselves*—which, assure him, would be of consequence, *fatal in an extreme*, he cannot conjecture. The great object is, that mrs. C's mind should be rendered *perfectly easy*, and if mr. W. will do so I

* The reader will please to keep in mind the colonel's knowledge of this person.

* Sir Richard Phillips who after the trial in the month of July, assured the people of England, through a letter to the editor of the Morning Post, that he did not know colonel Wardle at that time, &c.—but more of this anon !

shall feel myself much obliged, and not unmindful of his *attention* to such my wishes (and anxious ones they are) upon the subject.

Your's, my dear sir,

Ever faithfully,

(Signed)

GILB. L. WARDLE."

" To James Glennie, esq."

This *important* document (I understand) is now in the possession of Mr. Corfield, the colonel's late attorney, with whom it was left by mistake with other papers. When colonel Wardle was about to lay his case before counsel, this letter providentially slipped out of the parcel, and now lives as a monument of disgrace to the man, who stood up in a court of justice and *perjured himself to redeem his character with the people of England*; and although perjury appears an Hibernian method to support a man's reputation, yet he was kept in countenance by Sir R. Phillips and several of his *friends*, on my late trial for *conspiracy*!!!—I trust, the attentive reader will have been convinced by this time, who were the *conspirators*—MYSELF and the Wrights, or colonel Wardle AND HIS DESPICABLE ASSOCIATES!!!

Several respectable public prints, employed all their sophistry, to *pervert* the obvious meaning of the above letter; and if possible, *twist* its import to the *advantage* of colonel Wardle. If I were disposed to dispute *points* with all the papers that have fought in colonel Wardle's cause, I might keep writing till my work increased to the size of some of the *quarto compilations*, published by the political bookseller, which are in such great request among the cheesemongers; and after all my fatigue only despise myself for condescending to commit such an *act of folly*. I therefore, shall leave disputation for the enjoyment of my *enemies*, and continue to travel along the plain path of narra-

tive, with those necessary illustrations which my subject may require.

Obedient to the wish of the above letter, mr. Glennie endeavored to *sooth* Wright's impatience, and persuaded him to wait for the bill of £500 till the investigation should be over; when he might rest assured, that it would be given to him in a *very honorable* way.

As an apology for this delay, mr. Glennie urged the delicate situation in which the colonel would be placed, if he suffered *such an instrument* to be floating in the commercial world, which, accident might carry into the very hands of his enemies, and afford the means of discovering his political connection with me. mr. Glennie interlarded his solicitation with a large share of eulogium on colonel Wardle, as being a *gentleman* of great *integrity, liberality, and honor*;—*qualities* that time has *amply illustrated*!!!

Mr. Wright then had no reason to doubt Mr. Glennie's character of Colonel Wardle, but as praise would not *buy pudding*, he still stuck to the bill, and assured the *delicate* caledonian, that under an impression of receiving it, he had made arrangements that could not be then *counteracted*, and therefore, *could not* possibly do without the pecuniary assistance promised by colonel Wardle. Mr. Glennie finding that all his *art* and eloquence had no effect on mr. Wright, began to work another way to serve his friend. He commenced his lecture on his native *prudence*, by observing, that he thought the house I had taken, was much larger than I had any occasion for, and as he suspected that I was a very extravagant woman, and would *run his friend*, colonel Wardle, to a *very great expence*, he begged mr. Wright not to tempt me with expensive furniture, as elegance appeared unnecessary. On mr. Glennie's asking mr. Wright what he thought would be the amount of his bill for furnishing my

house, he told him that at least, it would come to £1200, which the *delicate* caledonian communicated to mr. Wardle, who mentioned it to me, and expressed a hope that the bill would not exceed that sum; and in order to keep it down as much as possible, Wardle, Dodd, and Glennie used to object to such things as *appeared expensive*—though they *first promised* furniture in any style of elegance my taste and inclination might lead me to desire. Mr. Glennie repeatedly spoke to miss Taylor,* upon the subject of my furniture, and urged her to persuade me not to enlarge my upholsterer's bill, as there would be no end to mr. Wright's demand on the colonel's pocket! Until the 28th of December, nothing occurred sufficiently interesting for notice, when mr. Illingworth, wine-merchant, of Pall-mall, then a perfect stranger to me, opened the nature of his visit, by saying, that he had the honor to serve the duke of Kent† with wine! and that he supposed I had been apprized, by major Dodd, of his business with me. I told him I was perfectly acquainted with his *intended services* to them, which I hoped would remove any reserve he might feel with respect to the affair.

It is here necessary to inform the reader, that the *patriot* and the *faithful secretary* had made me *promise* to accept a bill of Illingworth, in order to *mask* the real money transaction, that was then about to be *entered* upon, between the wine-merchant and my upholsterer, lest the then ensuing *investigation* might lead to the discovery of colonel Wardle's payment for my furniture; accordingly mr. Illingworth produced a bill for £500, which I accepted, as previously agreed upon by these *wise heads*!

* The lady who was examined in the house of commons, and for whom mr. Cobbett raised a subscription.

† The reader will perceive, that I have not yet got out of the duke of Kent's influence!!!

Mr. Illingworth now hastened to Mr. Francis Wright, and, as I am given to understand, said—“Sir, I am *desired by two friends* of mine, to give you an acceptance for £500; I suppose you know who I mean?”—“Yes, said Wright, you mean colonel Wardle and major Dodd; I have expected to see you, or some other person, for this fortnight past.” Mr. Illingworth then told Mr. Wright, he must date the bill a few days *forward*, as the bill he had to provide for, might be paid first, which being agreed to, Mr. Wright drew the following, on Mr. Illingworth, dated the 2d of January, 1809, which he accepted, and then observed, that he was desired to take a receipt, which was accordingly given to him:—

£500,

“London, Jan. 2, 1809.

“Three months after date, pay to my order, the sum of five hundred pounds, for value received.

“FRANCIS WRIGHT.”

Mr. R. S. Illingworth, wine	}	“Accepted, R. S. IL-
merchant, 10, Pall Mall		
		LINGWORTH.
		Messrs. Birch, Chambers, & Co.
		Bond-street.

Mr. Wright's receipt—

“Received, January 2, 1809, of Mr. R. S. Illingworth, a bill of acceptance, this same date, at three months, value five hundred pounds, which when paid, will be on account for household furniture delivered to Mrs. M. A. Clarke, at No. 2, Westborne Place.

“FRANCIS WRIGHT.”

As men guilty of any wrong generally disturb themselves with their own reflections, so colonel Wardle and his party, became alarmed at the money transaction between Illingworth and Wright, lest something might occur, during the investiga-

tion, that would lead to the secret, and at once defeat the great work of their *patron*."

After much consideration, it was determined, that I should send to Illingworth for a FEW DOZENS OF WINE, in order to enable me *to say* in the house of commons, if ever this part of the business WAS DISCOVERED, *that he was my WINE MERCHANT*. Still, however, every day brought with it *fresh* fears upon the subject, and produced repeated consultations between Wardle, Dodd, and Glennie, as to the most political means that could be adopted to get over this bill given to Wright, and prevent the possibility of any discovery! What was now to be done—many methods were suggested by each of these philosophers, and as *many* instantly abandoned, but at last, after great anxiety and disputation, as I have since understood, it was *privately* settled between themselves, as a further precaution, that major Dodd *should get a bill of sale prepared*:—Mark, reader, a bill of sale prepared! under the PRETENCE OF ITS BEING A BOND OF INDEMNITY to me, for the *performance of all their promises*. Accordingly major Dodd brought this supposed bond of security,* and with his *usual* professions of friendship, and an appearance of being in a great HURRY to attend the duke of Kent, *he induced me to sign immediately without allowing me to read it*. My brother, capt. Thompson, was present, and on being asked to become a witness to this *supposed instrument for my security*, declined, with this declaration—"That he would not lend his *name*, or *sanction*, to any thing that was directly or indirectly connected with the proceedings against the duke of York!

I have since heard, that Dodd *deceived me* into this

* Though it may appear a little extraordinary that I should sign a bond, which was a supposed security to me, yet at that time I was not sufficient lawyer to detect the imposition, but, experience has since taught me better,

measure, to make it *appear* that Illingworth had a better SECURITY by the possession of a bill of sale, THAN THE counter-ACCEPTANCE of a *married woman*. It was thought this act of policy would completely veil the real transaction in *mystery*, as Illingworth's bill to Wright would have the appearance of having been given under the consideration of *good security!*

The only difficulty that now attended the regular execution of this *legal instrument*, (which proves so fatal to the property of hundreds) was to get a *confidential witness*, as it could not with propriety bear the signature of major Dodd; but after some reflection upon the subject, he said he would obviate that difficulty, and, as I was afterwards informed, he took it to mr. Illingworth, who was *not apprised* of the intended deposit, till it was surrendered to his care.

Before I proceed any further, I cannot forego the opportunity I have, of reflecting a little on the *bill of sale*; or, as major Dodd called it, a BOND OF INDEMNITY!!!—What! must the reader think of *men* who wished to *possess* (under the *motive* of concealing their money concerns with my upholsterer) a *power over* my furniture which was their *own* free gift to me?—Here it is clear, they not only thought themselves secure in one quarter, but believed they *held a terror over my head*, and kept me as it were, at the *mercy* of their caprice!

It is impossible for the rational reader to be so sceptical as to believe, *that I should have gone* such a *roundabout* way to pay for my furniture! No one, I flatter myself, can be so weak as to suppose that mr. Illingworth, *whom I never saw before*, and who waited on me, (as I have already detailed) to take the *acceptance of a married woman*;—a security which no stranger, but *mr. Illingworth*, would have taken; and he would not have been so *weak* as to have taken it, under *different circumstances!*—I ask the reader, if he will for one moment believe, that after I had *given*

my acceptance to mr. Illingworth, and he given his bill to mr. Wright, that *I should have forced a BILL OF SALE on this stranger*, as a further security to him, and by which he could come and *sell off* all my *furniture*? The thing is too ridiculous for public credit! If it were possible for mr. Illingworth to have shewn me any *act of kindness, independent of other motives* for the benefit of colonel Wardle and major Dodd, I trust the reader will do me the justice to believe, that I should have had more sense than to have *knowingly committed* my property to the mercy of a *strange man*, several days after he had satisfied mr. Wright, and taken the counter security, according to the *arrangement* of colonel Wardle and major Dodd. For the present, I think I have said sufficient upon this point, and shall, therefore, proceed in my narrative.

During the interval of *Illingworth* giving his acceptance to mr. Wright, and his bill becoming due (that is to say, between the 2d of January and the 31st of March) colonel Wardle was *greatly pushed for money*, and as I have since understood from good authority was raising the *circulating medium* through the influence of all the *celebrated money-lenders* in London, particularly *Jew King*, who *prides himself*, as I shall presently shew, in *bringing his friend colonel Wardle, into public notice!!!*—by the force and energy of his *writings*, in a Sunday paper, called *The British Guardian*, which is honored by the editorship of that *virtuous, but notorious gentleman!!!*—of whom many persons in the town would have the confidence to say—

“ Oh, mr. King! libel me with all things but thy praise !!!

Returning, however, to the *honest patriot*, who, a few days before he had to make up his share of Illingworth's bill, which was 250*l.* for him and 250*l.* for major Dodd, found great difficulty in raising that sum, and employed his late attorney, mr. Corfield,

upon the business, who has *now a letter in his possession* (which I am sure he is a man of too *much honor* to deny,) that speaks of *Newnam and Co. of Mansion house Street*, as the bankers, in whose hands his bill to Illingworth was lying to be *honored*, and which, I believe, this *much injured* gentleman, took up at the above house.

If I may be allowed to digress a little from my chain of facts, relative to mr. Illingworth, the colonel, and major Dodd, I cannot omit my notice of Wardel's ungentlemanly treatment of Corfield.

As I *understand* the case (which I *believe* mr. Corfield *will not*—and the colonel *cannot deny*) it appears that this gentleman has raised, at different times, upon mortgage, &c. &c. near *twenty thousand pounds* for the PRUDENT Patriot, and during the *investigation*, was his *best legal friend*. In fact, he was *employed* day and night on his *private and public business*, till he became *averse* to the *defence* of Wright's *action*, from having *discovered* his client's *guilt*, and an infamous *disposition* to *plunge through a sea* of PERJURY, to retrieve a *something*, he called his CHARACTER!!! with the people of England.

Mr. Corfield's eyes now began to be opened, and his client also began to *see* that honesty and *roguery*, were qualities of the human character, like *iron and stone*, that do not amalgamate; he therefore, by the most *artful* means, got (as he imagined) all his papers from mr. Corfield—for the professional use of a gentleman, who, though as sharp as a sword, is not quite so *polished*; but is, perhaps, better calculated for that *kind of business necessary* to the very existence of colonel Wardle.

The passion of ingratitude appears so completely a part of the colonel's nature, that after all mr. Corfield's *professional and friendly* services, he endeavored in his absence, to get his bill taxed, and was afterwards, I hear, instrumental in making a deadly attack on his character, as an attorney, in the *statesman*,

an evening paper, in which *it is asserted with some confidence*, that he HAS a property and INFLUENCE !!!

As I should be sorry to leave mr. Illingworth's character and services *half defined*, I will return to the history of his concerns with me. A day or two before his bill to Wright, became due, he called at Westborne Place, and entreated me to solicit my upholsterer *not to urge* for the *immediate payment of the bill*, as he was much *pushed* for cash. Major Dodd having, however, previously informed me, that he had provided *his share*, namely, £250, I expressed my anger at his application, and told mr. Illingworth that I had no business with his *money concerns*; and if the bill were not taken up, he and colonel Wardle must be *answerable for their neglect*:—that, as the colonel had agreed to furnish my house, he ought to be prepared for the consequences.

Mr. Illingworth finding he could not obtain *any thing* by his visit, began a conversation upon general subjects, in the course of which, he spoke of *himself, family, and the duke of Kent*, which will shortly engage my attention. After some difficulty usually attendant on the raising of money through such a person as *Jew King*, colonel Wardle and major Dodd provided for Illingworth's bill, as appears by the following letter to mr. Wright:—

“ Mr. Wright,

“ I am sorry to tell you (and at so short a notice) that I really cannot pay my bill of £500, to-morrow, not *because my TWO FRIENDS* did not pay their's (they having *DONE SO*) but because I am really most seriously distressed by some *heavy bills* being returned upon me, in the City Road, which I am compelled to take up, or have my credit seriously injured. I have ENCLOSED YOU three bills, amounting to £369 8 6, the difference you shall have in cash, in a day or two, and I can assure you, I shall consider myself very greatly obliged to you for so accommodating me, as

it is really out of my power, under the present circumstances, to pay my bill, and I shall be happy, when in my power, to render you any favor of a similar kind.

“ I remain your obedient servant,
“ R. S. ILLINGWORTH.”

Mr. Wright, Rathbone Place.

I intreat the reader to couple the *text* and *spirit* of this letter with the preceding pages, relative to mr. Illingworth, and then ask himself, what he now thinks of a *conspiracy* against colonel Wardle?—would the colonel have gone among *money lenders* for a week before, to *raise money* for mr. Illingworth, under any other circumstances than those of having got this *useful wine-merchant*, to pay the promised £500 to mr. Wright, in that *CIRCUITOUS* way, which agreeable to the *policy* of the *moment*, was deemed expedient? If this had been an accommodation to me, why not have called on me for the money—or have sent my *bill* into circulation, which I gave as a *blind* to mr. Illingworth?—or which was the more *effectual* mode for the re-payment of Illingworth—the *FAMOUS bill of sale*, which Dodd made me sign, to conceal their real proceedings. This would at once, have turned all my *property into cash*, and prevented the colonel from seeking pecuniary assistance in a *little dark room* in Poland-street, which is so well known to *many needy adventurers, besides SPECULATIVE POLITICIANS!*

There is an old remark, “only give your enemy rope enough and he will hang himself”—and the colonel and his colleagues have verified this maxim in the fullest manner. One falsehood has led *them* into *another*—and one *act* of infamy obliged them to conceal it by becoming still more *infamous*, till *they* and *infamy*, are so identified, that it is difficult to speak of the one without meaning the other!

I beg to assure the reader, that the *bill* I gave to mr. Illingworth for £500, was never offered for pay-

ment, and I also pledge my honor, and will give *my oath*, if it be necessary, that the *bill of sale* was never *acted upon*;—and before I come to mr. Illingworth's *confession with respect to them*, I will ask *one* simple question of the reader, that is—whether he will believe, after this *developement of facts*, that a *stranger*, as this wine-merchant was, would have paid FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS FOR ME, having a bill, which he could have *sent into circulation* and annoyed me upon, together with an immediate *power* over my property, and yet NEVER trouble me for EITHER? I believe mr. Illingworth is a *weak man*, but I never found a tradesman *weak* in money matters;—even the book-seller, of Bridge-street, *shines* in the *art of managing* money concerns, as is well *known* to those persons who have any dealings with him.

When the colonel's *honest* principles induced him to resist the payment of the remainder of mr. Wright's bill, after he had no *further use* FOR MY SERVICES, my solicitor, mr. Stokes, thought it necessary to call on mr. Illingworth, to hear what he had to say upon the subject, as far as he had been concerned in the transaction. I must inform the reader that at this time, colonel Wardle had not taken *the precaution* to see mr. Illingworth, and *school* him upon the business; therefore, he being taken by surprise, *simply* and *fairly* related to mr. Stokes, the particulars of the case. He told him, that on the morning of his first visit to me, colonel Wardle and major Dodd begged him to *accept* a bill for £500, and as security, they would each give him *their bill* for £250. Having agreed to their request, he was desired to call upon me immediately, and take my *acceptance* for the same sum, which they said I was prepared to give, as have before observed.

On mr. Stokes asking what was become of *my acceptance and the receipt*, mr. Illingworth said he *could not tell*!—(pray reader mark this!) but he believed he might have them in some of *his drawers*;—(

tradesman not know where to find a £500 bill—*very good* mr. Illingworth!) He, however, never *considered* them as *worth any thing*, (certainly not) and therefore, *had not taken any care of them*. Mr. Stokes then asked him, if the bill had been presented *for payment?* on which mr. Illingworth very truly and honestly said, *certainly not!*—he never considered it as of any *value*, having only *looked to the bills* of colonel Wardle and major Dodd as HIS SECURITY, (no doubt of that): he then continued to observe, that he was much *surprised* and *alarmed*, when the investigation commenced, at *seeing* the names of colonel Wardle and mrs. Clarke, in the newspapers; being fearful, that accident might lead to the discovery of his *name*; apprehensions of which, induced him to speak to major Dodd and colonel Wardle, who *assured him it was of the utmost importance*, that his name *should not appear*. Mr. Stokes now requested mr. Illingworth to look for the bill and receipt, which he *promised to do*, and give an answer upon the subject on the following day: accordingly on that day, he informed my solicitor, *that he RECOLLECTED* (having in the interval, *I suppose*, seen either the colonel or the major) *he had GIVEN THEM* to major Dodd. Now the reader will begin to see this wine-merchant, of Pall-mall, in a *new character*—not as mr. Illingworth, a man of honor and respectability—but mr. Illingworth, the *tool* of a *political party* under HIGH INFLUENCE!

To say that he had forgotten *what* had become of a *five hundred pounds bill*, in the course of a few months; setting aside the circumstances under which it was given, was, I think, making too *large a demand* upon human credulity!—But as mr. Illingworth could not have *any better answer* to give upon an infamous act, mr. Stokes *received* it as a *falsehood* deserved to be *received*, and came away.

In the course of my *instructions* to mr. Stokes, the BOND OF INDEMNITY, or rather the *bill of sale*, was

mentioned, which induced him to call again upon mr. Illingworth, in order to hear what he would say with respect to that instrument of *terror*, which was hanging in *awful* suspense over my head!—Mr. Illingworth acknowledged major Dodd's delivery of the *bill of sale* into his possession, but observed, that he *could not tell what had become of it*—another *falsehood* which his political friends had induced him to assert for their safety! After the trial of Wright's action, July 1, 1809, mr. Stokes again waited upon the wine-merchant, whom he found *closeted with* colonel Wardle, to discover, if possible, the fate of the *bill of sale*, which their *villainy* might induce them, at any time, to put in execution against my furniture.

Mr. Illingworth left Wardle to receive mr. Stokes in another room, and said, in answer to his question, that HE HAD PROMISED NOT TO MENTION ANY THING ABOUT THE BILL OF SALE; it was therefore, of NO USE QUESTIONING HIM UPON THE SUBJECT!!! that he had already incurred the *displeasure* of colonel Wardle and major Dodd, for having made it the subject of any REMARK or CONVERSATION!

The facts of this statement constitute a part of my brief to counsel, and can be supported by the oath of mr. Stokes, I therefore think, that any further comments upon my solicitor's interview with mr. Illingworth, will be unnecessary, as these *facts must at once show* how completely he has been made the *tool* of unprincipled men, who *suborned* him to maintain falsehood before the grand jury, and in the following affidavit, read in the court of king's bench, and also, in his personal evidence on my trial for conspiracy:—

The affidavit of Richard Stonehewer Illingworth.

“ RICHARD STONEHEWER ILLINGWORTH, of Pall-mall, in the county of Middlesex, wine-merchant, maketh oath and saith, that in or about the latter end

of the month of December last, this deponent was applied to by major Dodd, who dealt with this deponent as a wine-merchant, to give his acceptance to the plaintiff for £500, on account of mrs. Clarke; and to take *her note* for the same sum, which major Dodd assured this deponent, mrs. Clarke would be able to pay when it became due. And this deponent further saith, that he was, before this time, *unacquainted with the defendant*, never having *seen him* but once; and that major Dodd proposed, as a guarantee to this deponent, to give his acceptance to the deponent, for £250, and the defendant's acceptance for £250; both which last-mentioned acceptances, were to become due before the acceptance to be given by this deponent to the plaintiff, but after the note to be given by mrs. Clarke, should fall due; and this deponent further saith, that having agreed to comply with major Dodd's request, he this deponent, went to mrs. Clarke and told her that he came there by the desire of the said major Dodd, and, that if she would give her *note* for £500, he, this deponent, would accept the plaintiff's bill for that sum. And this deponent further saith, that mrs. Clark did give this deponent her note, dated the 27th of December last, for £500, PAYABLE THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE THEREOF, but *which note was never honored*; and that he, this deponent, thereupon accepted the plaintiff's bill for the said sum of £500. And this deponent further saith, that at the time of this deponent's calling upon the plaintiff to give his acceptance for £500, he knew nothing of any dealings between plaintiff and defendant, nor had he ever heard of any investigation about to be instituted by the said defendant, in the house of commons; nor did the defendant, or the said major Dodd, express any wish that THEIR NAMES SHOULD BE KEPT SECRET. And this deponent further saith, that at the time he called upon the said plaintiff, no CONVERSATION PASSED BETWEEN the said PLAINTIFF and this DE-

DEPONENT, RESPECTING the said DEFENDANT OR MAJOR DODD, nor was EITHER of their NAMES MENTIONED or REFERRED to in conversation by this deponent, or the said PLAINTIFF ; for this deponent further saith, he was but a few minutes with the said plaintiff, and MERELY MENTIONED to him that HE CAME TO GIVE HIS ACCEPTANCE FOR £500, on ACCOUNT of MRS. CLARKE. And this deponent further saith, that when he called upon MRS. CLARKE, he acquainted her that he came there at the desire of major Dodd, and that upon her giving this defendant her note for £500, he, this deponent would call, as he afterwards did do, and give the plaintiff his acceptance for £500. And the deponent further saith, that nothing ever PASSED BETWEEN THIS DEPONENT, and MAJOR DODD, and MRS. CLARKE, and the PLAINTIFF, or ANY or EITHER OF THEM, FROM whence this deponent was induced to believe, or given to understand, that the said defendant had ordered. or was indebted, or in ANY MANNER RESPONSIBLE to the said plaintiff, for the furniture sent in by him to the said house at Westborne place. And deponent further saith, that he was subpœnaed by the said plaintiff on the trial of the said cause, but was not CALLED, or EXAMINED ; but this deponent WELL UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SAID DEFENDANT was ANXIOUS THAT HE SHOULD BE EXAMINED ON HIS BEHALF."

The reader will perceive that the preceding remarks afford an ample illustration of this affidavit, which, when coupled with mr. Illingworth's letter, and the other documents and facts of the work, will, I hope, render it unnecessary for me to minutely analyse the different paragraphs of the above DECLARATION ; the *whole truth of which, mr. Illingworth MUSTERED up sufficient COURAGE TO CALL HIS GOD TO WITNESS!!!*

It may not, however, be improper to trouble the reader with a remark upon a passage or two of this affidavit. Shakspeare, that great observer of the human character, says, when speaking of the workings of a guilty mind "that murder will out" and so it appears in the above document, for even the ingenuity of Mr. Ellis has not been able to shield the guilt of his client's witness, as may be seen, by first making him say, that nothing ever passed between this deponent, major Dodd and Mrs. Clarke, and the plaintiff, or any or either of them," &c. &c. and then it appears from the concluding paragraph that Illingworth *well recollected that the colonel was very anxious that he should be examined.* Here we see colonel Wardle unbosom his secrets to a man, and a stranger, as Illingworth would make one believe! of whom, he ought to have known nothing, when in the delicate capacity of a witness.

It must be recollected that Mr. Illingworth is speaking from his own *personal knowledge* and not from report; consequently, it is easy to account for his sudden knowledge of the colonel's *palpitating nerve* upon that momentous occasion.

Mr. Ellis may be a very *cunning* man, but I do not think that he will ever immortalize himself by the logic of *his affidavits*, or the *success of his prosecutions*, particularly when I consider, that, to show colonel Wardle's *love* of the LIBERTY of the SUBJECT, and the FREEDOM of the PRESS, he brought, under the patriot's instructions, an *action* against Mr. Gillet, for the loss of POPULARITY*, which his client pre-

* I am informed that colonel Wardle laid his damages at £5000, for the loss of his POPULARITY, a kind of *nimbus*, or floating vapor, which *even honorable political men get and lose* every session of parliament, as *circumstances and caprice* operate upon the public mind!—Shakspeare, speaking of glory, built on the multitude calls it—

"An habitation, giddy and unsure,
Has he that buildeth on the vulgar heart,
Oh! thou fond Many."

tended to have sustained through the pamphlet of the "*Rival Impostors*;" and to prevent further exposure, was *glad* to withdraw the *record*!—A second *action* against Bell and Decamp, for a libel in their paper, and withdrew the record!!—A third *action* against the "*Morning Post*," for an injury done to his *popularity*!!! and withdrew the record:—A fourth *action*, against mr. Manners, the editor of "*The Satirist*," for the *loss* of his *popularity*!!!—and withdrew the record; besides indicting me and the Wrights for a conspiracy; and after subpœnaing no less than *ninety-four witnesses*, many of whom, I heard, had been under the *care, and instruction* of very *able masters* in the art and mystery of *giving good evidence*!—he *read* the record of his *client's disgrace*, in my acquital. If mr. Ellis should be as fortunate in his suit against the speaker of the house of commons, as he has hitherto been for colonel Wardle*, he will become the greatest Solicitor in England—for *bringing actions, and making nothing of them*!

That noble zeal of patriotism which disdains authority, and tramples on laws for the *ambitious* and *sinister* motives of colonel Wardle, has induced him to *accuse* government, in his late speech at the Westminster meeting, Palace Yard, of having endeavored to check public discussion, while he has expended in law *several thousand pounds* to *stop* the *FREEDOM* of *discussion* with respect to the purity of his *political conduct*!—A fig then for the patriotism of that man who dreads the investigation of his *PRIVATE*, or *public actions*—and who, under the *mask of freedom*, would *fine* and *imprison* the British subject, whose liberty and rights he *affects* to maintain! But to return more immediately to the subject:—If the reader will do me the favor to refer to the trial of Wright's ac-

* Through the influence of colonel Wardle, he has become sir Francis Burdett's solicitor.

tion, July 1, 1809, he will be able to see a little *further into* the real character of this *would be* patriot, from the defence Mr. Serjeant Best made, under the instructions of his amiable client. The learned Serjeant following the *letter and spirit* of his brief, *larded* his long and ingenious speech with every *harsh and cruel* epithet, of which the English language is capable, in order to color me to the Jury, as a person of the most *abandoned and worthless principles*;—the very woman who raised Colonel Wardle from insignificant obscurity to the summit of popular admiration!—the very woman *whom*, he but a short time before, stood up to *defend* and JUSTIFY, in the British senate, and paid M^cCullum and other of his *puffers*, to support her character and conduct in the newspapers, and a variety of other public journals! while she was suffering under every kind of *misrepresentation and calumny*, from having lent herself to his *political and ambitious* views! But when she would not *lend herself* to any *further plans** (Colonel Wardle will understand this, if the reader should not.) I repeat, when she would not lend herself to other projects to keep the public mind in a state of continued ferment, for the accomplishment of—

* * * * *

A blank which I must entreat the reader to fill up—then the *curtain dropped* on all her *prospects*, which the colonel's fair promises held *out to her*, and she instantly became, in his estimation, the *very worst of women*; while he, and his tribe of literary *assailants*, began to throw, in great profusion, that very *gall over*

* I beg to be understood, that I do not mean to connect the duke of Kent with *this*, or any *thing* beyond the investigation. Colonel Wardle's other plans grew out of the success attendant on his first great measure.

her, with which they had a little before, been *bespatter-*
ing others in her defence!

The reader will be soon satisfied, *how misled* mr. Corfield and Serjeant Best were, by the colonel, with respect to Illingworth's bill, when I give the following extract from the trial. A jurymen interrupted the learned Serjeant's abusive speech in this manner:—

A JURYMEN —“ Will you inform me whose name, if any, is on the bill ?

Mr. PARK, “ We cannot say. We have NOT THE BILL ; WE NEVER SAW IT.

Lord Ellenborough.—“ We must do as well as we can. This deficiency of evidence we cannot account for; all that we have to do, is to decide upon such evidence as the parties please to lay before us.

Mr. Serjeant Best.—“ It is very true, gentlemen, *we have never seen this bill.* A great deal of talk has occurred about it; but I believe it NEVER EXISTED, I hope, therefore, you have been too long IN THAT BOX to be imposed upon by the TRICK or TRICKS of FIFTY such witnesses as you have heard this day. *The payment of five hundred pounds bill,* ALLEDGED to have been handed by colonel Wardle to mr. Wright, WE UTTERLY DENY, and with which we AFFIRM, WE HAD NOTHING TO DO.”

Before I remark on this extract, let us see how far it accords with an extract from the affidavit of colonel Wardle and major Dodd.

First, the reader will perceive, that the existence of a *bill* is positively *denied* by his own counsel, Serjeant Best and mr. Park—and then, after a few months consideration, and legal advice, colonel Wardle and the major, find it *political* to swear in the following *manner*:—pray, reader, attend to the declaration of these *good men* !—

Deponents say—“ That deponent, G. L. Wardle, related to deponent, Thomas Dodd, what is herein before stated to have passed between the other defend-

ant G. L. Wardle, and the said James Glenzie, and Mary Ann Clarke, on the substance and affidavit thereof, and that the deponent, G. L. Wardle, consulted with deponent, Thomas Dodd, and prevailed upon said Thomas Dodd, contrary to his better judgment to assist in accommodating the said Mary Anne Clarke, with the loan of the said £500.

Say—"That they went together to mr. Illingworth, of Pall Mall, the wine-merchant of the said Thomas Dodd, whom deponent, G. L. Wardle, had seen but once before, and was scarcely known to, and the said Thomas Dodd, desired mr. Illingworth to assist the said Mary Anne Clarke, BY TAKING HER NOTE, and by giving his acceptance for £500 to the plaintiff, who was distressing the said Mary Anne Clarke for money; and defendant, Thomas Dodd, assured said mr. Illingworth, that he should be no loser, for that he, the said Thomas Dodd, and the said G. L. Wardle, would give the said mr. Illingworth, SECURITY for the amount to be paid, in case the said Mary Anne Clarke should not take up the note," &c. &c.

On reference to page 52 the reader will see the *bill* and *receipt*, which my counsel had in their possession that very moment, but I suppose, for some *legal reason*, did not see the necessity of producing them. When mr. Illingworth was examined before the grand jury, I am given to understand, that he told them he had lost the bill; but the fact is, that it was never given to him, in consequence of his not having been able to take it up in the regular way when due. The reader will be pleased to recollect, at first, he only paid £369 8 6, as may be seen by reference to his letter*, and when the remainder of the money was sent to mr. Wright, I believe, accident prevented his

* See page 57.

receiving this document, which has since turned out so fortunate to my cause.

I trust, that after this clear illustration of facts, all mr. Serjeant Best's *abuse* of me, will have but *little weight* with the reader of that *trial*. I beg to be understood, that I do not mean to make any unhand-some reflection upon the learned counsel, either in a *private* or *professional* point of light, as I know he was governed by the *instructions* of his brief, and under an impression that it contained *nothing but truth*, he stood up to discharge his duty to his client. But one thing I must be allowed to communicate to the public, which is, that it was not many hours after the trial, before *he* was convinced that the colonel *had grossly* deceived his attorney, mr. Corfield, and himself; and I am informed, that he made use of this very *strong remark*—"the man (meaning colonel Wardle) is both a fool and a rogue!"

If this book should get into the hands of the gentlemen who were jurors upon that trial (as I have no doubt but it will) they must feel highly delighted with the *verdict* they gave on that occasion, as it will not only be a very flattering compliment to their *understanding* and *duty*, but show, that *twelve englishmen* have too much sense to be *biased* by an unmanly attack upon a woman's character and feelings—even though it is issued from the gentlemanly lips of the BEST counsel in the court of common pleas.

It is said that a drowning man will catch at a straw—and as colonel Wardle was driven to a variety of expedients to conceal his bill to Wright, he at one time caught at a *straw-like* pretence of his having given it, to repay my upholsterer a sum of money, which he had been obliged to pay some time before, in consequence of having bailed me in an action, defended by an attorney, of Soho-square, through whose *neglect*, Wright had become answerable. It is only necessary here for me to observe, that *this sum of money*,

with *other demands*, which mr. Wright settled, I repaid to him just after I left Gloucester place.

I informed the reader a short time back, that mr. Illingworth's miscellaneous observations should not escape notice, which I must confess, will be an act of civility he scarcely deserves; but as I would not wish to take my leave of him abruptly, I will proceed with the conversation he had with me as a reward for his *kind services* to colonel Wardle.

This communicative tradesman resumed his remarks on his friend the duke of Kent, by informing me, that he furnished the garrison of Gibraltar with wine, but his royal highness's personal consumption of the bachanalian fluid was not worth mentioning, it being less than that of almost any other man; major Dodd, however, made up the deficiency, and revelled in all the *delights* which the cellar of a prince can so amply afford. I have understood from the major that the duke of Kent is of very temperate habits, and instead of passing his time over the bottle, he consumes the midnight hour in *reflection*, and rises by day-light, to write long letters *on trifles*, which Dodd said no one would read, and on making out his *pepper and salt* account. I wish his attention to the latter article, had put him in mind of the *emblem of purity*, of which Pythagoras speaks, and then I should not have had the honor of giving this temperate prince a *niche* in my work!

Some persons are so vain, that they can scarcely seat themselves in your presence, before they inform you that they are *people of consequence*, and then begin to expatiate upon all the great qualities of their *rich relations*. Of this class of men, mr. Illingworth appears to be one; he had not been with me ten minutes, and got my negative to the favor he asked of me, before he observed, that he was related by marriage, to a *bishop*, who was of *high blood*! After bestowing much eulogium upon the virtues of this great divine, he should not have forgotten to have told me,

by way of contrasting his *family portraits*, that his wife's brother was a *hackney coachman*, who perhaps may have occasionally the honor to drive the bishop to church. Mr. Illingworth informed me, that he was upon intimate terms with his venerable relative, who, no doubt, has his wines from Pall-mall, and invites him to dinner, that he may send the *best* article for *his own consumption* !

If the good divine should see this book, and think as the generality of my readers, I trust, will think, that mr. Illingworth has been a *back-slider*, he will prepare against his next visit, a wholesome *homily* from the words of this great commandment—

“Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor,” &c.

Perhaps I am wrong in hinting a lecture to a bishop, who may never preach ; but if that should be the case, he is always encircled by those who are looking up to him for a better *living* and *less spiritual labor*, and who would give a very animated discourse upon a subject, in which mr. Illingworth might feel *tremulously alive*, at having been the unhappy cause of giving the clergy any trouble *beyond drinking his wine* !—If mr. Illingworth should not be able to stand under the *effect* of the discourse, he must lean against the bishop, who being the pillar of the church, is very able to bear a **LOAD OF SIN** !

END OF VOL. I.

RIVAL PRINCES,

&c. &c. &c.

THERE is something so *interesting* in the conduct of colonel Wardle, that I cannot but continue to lead the reader along the *path* by which he so *honorably* reached the temple, where fame, was anxiously waiting to deck his *virtuous* head with *the leaf* of the flattering laurel. If I could descant with that warmth of feeling, and energy of expression, which distinguished the zeal of the colonel and his colleagues in the cause of their royal patron, I fear it might be considered a *caricature* of the subject, instead of that faithful portrait which I professed to give in the commencement of this work.

Having pledged myself to a veritable statement of facts, and fearing my feeble pen would not be adequate to a masterly coloring of that *extravagant regard* which these persons evinced for their royal friend, the reader must be satisfied with my imperfect illustration of their individual and collective movements in the great cause in which they were engaged.

If the following documents are not instances of the *zeal* of which I speak, then colonel Wardle is an angel—perhaps the reader may think him so—but of *darkness*! By the following documents, it will be seen, that he was in the habit of *dictating* to me my line of proceeding, and of giving me *heads* for a subject, which shews the influence he had over my evidence:

MR. ADAM,

“The friend professed, of both brothers, has astonished his *patrons* by his liberality, at the *expense of the public*, towards his poor friends in Scotland, for whom he created as many new places and establishments as would fill a red book of the size it used to be half a century ago.”

Five o'clock.

This expressly tells me in what manner I must proceed.

“*House of commons, 5 o'clock,
Tuesday evening.*”

“MY DEAR MADAM,

“Mr. Perceval says, that he has a question or two to put to you, but that he will not keep you many minutes; he wishes you to come down *about nine o'clock to-night*. Send HIM a note, when you come, to say *you are at the house in compliance with HIS desire*. I send you doctor O'Meara's letter, enclosed, so that you may present it yourself to the house, *stating, that you forgot it last night*. I hope you have sent *Favorey, &c. &c.*

Yours, very much,

WARDLE.”

To the best of my recollection, this letter, which puts a falsehood into my mouth with respect to my forgetting the letter *last night*, was sent to me about the 13th or 14th of February, as may be seen by reference to the minutes of the house of commons, as published by Mr. Chapple, Pall-mall.

One morning I requested Colonel Wardle to accompany me to Mr. Wright's, with respect to my furniture, but he excused himself under the plea of urgent parliamentary business; he, however, told me, to get Major Dodd to go, as he had nothing to do on

the following day. Accordingly the major acquiesced, but wishing to couple my business with enquiries necessary to the proceedings before the house, we called on dr. Thynne, that *I might ask him* some questions, which *he dictated*, and then went on to Rathbone place, where we were obliged to stay about half an hour, in consequence of the weight of the major's person having broken one of the springs of my carriage, which, when repaired, we went on to my solicitor, mr. Comrie, of Southampton-buildings, Holborn, who not being in town, the major spoke to his nephew, and endeavored to obtain my papers of him, as he particularly wanted a *bill, sent to Birkett*, the silversmith, in order to see *the date* respecting the £500, paid by colonel French to me;—a circumstance of which I had previously informed the major, who insisted upon the delivery of my papers, which, if not immediately attended to, he assured mr. Comrie's nephew that he would send a summons from the house of commons, to enforce them. I have detailed this fact, as another instance of *the zeal* of this party!

What will the reader be pleased to denominate that *feeling* which induced colonel Wardle to draw me from my secluded habitation, under flattering prospects—suborn me into his own *arranged measures* of proceeding in the house of commons—instruct me to evade *such questions* as might be dangerous to his cause, while he had *the face* to make the most gross declarations—and afterwards had the *impudence* to stand up and reason on his own villainy!—The reader is asked to designate *such a feeling* with an appropriate epithet:—I must confess that I am *at a loss*, whether to let it stand under the term—*zeal for his patron*—or that horrid *depravity of mind*, for which, there is not in the english language, a *phrase* sufficiently forcible.

There would be no end of citing proofs of this declaration, from the minutes of evidence before the house of commons, if I felt so disposed, but as such

information is within the possible acquisition of every one, and as it is in fact pretty generally known, I do not feel inclined to entertain my reader with *unnecessary long* extracts from that voluminous work. If the reader will keep in mind, that the whole *proceeding* in the house was under his *immediate knowledge* and *direction*, and that he took every *private* and *public* means to *blow the coal*, in order to *consume* the object of his attack :—that he, major Dodd, or mr. Glennie, were always going to and from me, to the house of commons, though he as a gentleman, had the modesty to *deny or acknowledge it*, as best suited the expediency of the moment :—that he *argued* upon the *credibility of circumstances* formed by himself, and after a *long interval*, and having slept repeatedly on his proceedings, he again stood up in the house on the 8th of March, to deliver a *cool, mild and philanthropic speech*, on the consideration of the report of the committee.

If the reader will, I say, keep in mind all these circumstances, and then compare the following part of his oration, I do flatter myself that there can be but one *opinion* of his HONOR and VERACITY ; and that opinion is, that colonel Wardle *is, a black sheep* ! —The colonel stated to the house as follows—

“ My leading object from the opening of this important business to the present moment, has been to obtain a fair and cool investigation of the charges I thought it my duty to bring forward against his royal highness the commander in chief. I have endeavored to *avoid every thing likely to cause irritation* in the progress of the inquiry, and in *that course I shall most rigidly persevere*, however *I may feel hurt that motives highly injurious to my character*, and not more *injurious than false*, have been indirectly attributed to me,* as the ground of my proceedings ; and though I

* His services to the duke of Kent—A guilty conscience, is said, to want no accuser.

may also have thought that in the early stage of the enquiry, I was *harshly treated*, still, sir, on these points I shall make no comment, but at once proceed to a more pleasant task—that of offering my thanks where I feel them due.”

Colonel Wardle having heard me mention Mr. Corri, the music-master, as being acquainted with a money transaction, between me and captain Sandon, he begged that I would ask him to my house, and on being apprized of his visit, he, or the major, would *drop in*, as if by accident, in order to make him repeat *his conversation with captain Sandon*. Mr. Corri came to Westborne Place on the 6th of January, when I immediately sent to apprize colonel Wardle of it, who was dining on that day with major Dodd, in Sloane-street. The colonel wrote* back, requesting me to keep *the jockey* till he and Dodd came. In about half an hour they did me the honor of a visit, and remained till Mr. Corri went away. As the colonel was the principal object of concealment, I passed him off as Mr. W. Mellish, the member for Middlesex.

On reference to the minutes, it may be seen, that I only made use of him under the direction of colonel Wardle, and that I brought on the conversation he repeated at the bar of the house, and which is as follows:

Mr. Dominico Corri, examined.†

“ You have stated, that you have seen Mrs. Clarke twice since the 1st of January, on the 6th and 15th; was there any conversation at either of those meet-

* Not thinking these kind of notes of any moment at that time, the above was not preserved.

† See page 61 of the Minutes.

ings, when you supped each time, respecting the transaction to which this related?

“ Yes, I was a little surprised, because soon after dinner she sent for the twelfth cake, they sent for a compliment to some gentlemen, and two gentlemen came in the evening ; and as soon as they came, the conversation of this affair of mr. Sandon, was introduced, and I *repeated every word then*, just as I have here ; that capt. Sandon told me she had received the £500, and Mr. Cockayne had received the £200, and they, laughing at me, said, what a fool I had been : and this was the topic of the conversation of the whole night.”

It may occur to the recollection of the reader, that mr. Corri was asked in the house, whether he then saw the gentleman he called mr. Mellish, and he replied, that he did not, but that when mr. Mellish stood up for his observation, he informed the house, that he was not the gentleman whom he had seen at Westborne Place. After the examination of Corri upon this point, col. Wardle told me that he *was much* alarmed at that time, lest the witness should have *discovered* him when looking round the house ; and to avoid which, he *sat down behind several members who were standing!*

When major Dodd was first introduced to me by colonel Wardle, I was *doubtful* of his *professions* of sincerity, as it may be naturally enough supposed I should be, of the *mere word* of a stranger, and therefore informed him, that though he was secretary to the duke of Kent, I should like to know something more of his character from other quarters, if he would mention the names of any persons to whom he was *well known* ; and that if I were acquainted with any of them, or their connections, I would, in a circuitous way satisfy my mind with respect to *his being* a man of honor. The major then repeated the names of a number of his friends, among whom was mr. Donovan, of Charles-street, St. James's

square, and on my saying that I was acquainted with him, he instantly proposed to accompany me to his door, which he did, while I had an interview with him. I have introduced this circumstance to shew how major Dodd afterwards made use of my knowledge of mr. Donovan, for the accomplishment of *his own views*; and after he and Wardle had got what they wanted with respect to him, the colonel immediately introduced his name to the notice of the parliament. Major Dodd thought, during the examination of Donovan, that *a letter might be written* by me, to him, that would have *great weight with the house*, and the receipt of which Donovan could not deny if he were so disposed, when *pushed* home upon the subject by colonel Wardle, who was acquainted with *the trick*; he therefore, *dictated* the following letter, which I sent to Donovan, who produced it to the house:

“ DEAR SIR,

“ I am much mortified in seeing in this day's paper, the free use of your name, and mine, in the debate of last night; I, however, took an opportunity of seeing Mr. Wardle on the subject, and I find he is by no means so ill disposed as his speech seemed to evince, but he tells me, that as *I have committed myself* and my *papers*; he is determined to make every possible use of them, that to him seems proper. I must be candid and tell you, that in order to facilitate some negotiation, I had given him a few of your letters. In one you speak of the Queen in answer to the two Deaneries; as to myself, I must of course speak the truth, as I shall be put upon oath. Let me persuade you, if called on, to keep truth, as I am convinced you will, but I mean the whole truth as to what has passed formerly between yourself and me. I have a thousand thanks for your being so quiet upon the £130, you shall have it, the moment my mother comes from Bath: *I fear if you are back-*

ward, Wardle will expose the whole of the letters he has to the house.

"Your's, truly,
"M. A. CLARKE.

"Saturday evening, July 28th, 1809.

"In order to relieve your mind, I send my servant, though late."

The next letter the reader is about to peruse, I did not send to Mr. Donovan under any other direction than that of *my own will*; but as some little circumstances arose from its existence that makes another *link* to that *long chain* of facts, which shew that Colonel Wardle is a man in whom there is *no truth nor honor*, I have thought right to give it a place here:

"Wednesday Morning,
Feb. 1, 1809.

"DEAR SIR,

"I yesterday saw Mr. Wardle; he had a letter yesterday from your friend Glass, begging him not to take any business in hand where his name is mentioned, and he asks for you also. He was tutor to Wardle—now Wardle assures me by every thing honorable, that if you speak candidly and fairly to the fact of Tonym's, he will ask nothing more; and if he has been at all intemperate with your name, he will do it every justice. Take my advice and do it—it cannot injure you. I understand, your friend French, some months ago, put a friend of his in possession of Tonym's business; and yesterday a *man* of the name of *Finnerty*, gave him a case, which he says, he had from you, of a captain Trotter, and of course, you will not mention my telling you this. I wish

from my soul, Mr. Wardle had taken it up less passionately, he might have done more good. Why do not you send me a line? I dare say, Clavering is hugging himself as he did not send the remainder.

Your's, &c.

M. A. C."

The reader will perceive that Mr. Finnerty is mentioned in this letter. Col. Wardle denied, in the house of commons, his having any intimacy with him, and I believe *only acknowledges to have spoken to him once in the lobby!*

After what the reader has already heard, it will *not appear extraordinary* to find that the colonel could *coolly face* six hundred representatives of the nation, in the British senate, and insult them by a *gross falsehood!* The fact is, that Mr. Finnerty and the colonel have been inseperable ever since the making up of major Hogan's pamphlet, and mrs. Wardle's visit in the barouche to the major, at Frank's hotel, Lower Brook-street, as I before observed, which colonel Wardle had assured me, his wife had most *excellently* managed under his directions!!! but acknowledging at the same time, that he had been *guilty* of a great *oversight* in having sent the *servants in his own livery!* I believe the livery described by Mr. Finnerty, as editor of major Hogan's pamphlet, *corresponded exactly* with the clothes worn by the *colonel's SERVANTS—* which *was white turned up with scarlet!*

But to return more immediately to the above letter, which when delivered to the house by Mr. Donovan, threw the colonel into great *trepidation and alarm*, as he had before *denied knowing any thing of Mr. Finnerty;* and when he came to me the next morning, at nine o'clock, he *expressed his anger* that I was so *indiscreet* as to have mentioned Mr. Finnerty in a letter to Donovan, or any other person. He told me I

had *nearly been* the ruin of him, after the *broad declaration* he had made to the house, of not being *acquainted* with such a person.

I observed, if he were ashamed of Mr. Finnerty, why did he associate with him ;—to which he replied, that he was very useful in that kind of business ; then laughed—and turned the conversation to something else.

It may appear a little strange that I have not assigned some motive for having written a letter, in which I *committed* one of my *patrons*, but when I develop the cause, I am inclined to think I shall not incur the censure of my reader. The colonel had exposed Mr. Donovan, *without my knowledge or approbation*, and deceived me with respect to the young *officer's letters* ; I therefore, thought that I *would just* give him and his *colleagues* a *gentle hint*, that they were all at my *mercy* ; and if they again *deceived me* as to the *use of my information*, I would *ruin* them— which I am sorry now I did not accomplish !

As Colonel Wardle is greatly indebted to his wife for her *cool and able assistance*, during the investigation, it would not be fair of me to pass her *merits* over in brief remark, and as part of her services has just come under my notice, I may not have a better opportunity to commemorate the abilities of a PATRIOTIC WIFE !

History having regarded in language of descriptive energy, the exertions and INFLUENCE of those women who have *distinguished themselves* in great *political convulsions*, I trust I may feel something like a strong plea in favor of my feeble attempt to describe Mrs. Wardle's political character, in chastity of pencil, and sober coloring.

It is said, that it is necessary for one of a family to have *brains*, otherwise they will not become distinguished for any thing *but folly* ! This is precisely the case with colonel Wardle, who, without his *wife's abilities*, would never have made a *politician* ! Previ-

ous to the investigation, she *organized* all the plans upon which her husband was to act, and in order to pick up *information* kept an *open house*, where all descriptions of persons assembled that could be useful to her husband. One of her schemes was, to send to all the prisons, particularly the King's Bench and the Fleet, where she supposed many persons might be found, who would, for *fine promises* and a *LITTLE money*, communicate secrets relating to such high persons, whom incarcerated poverty might at one time have known!—among such a variety of individuals, whom misfortunes and indiscretion, daily introduce to a goal, many may be found, who, one day or other, have been in the confidence of men of *rank*; and as poverty and neglect strangely *revolutionize* the human mind, and induce a man, once possessed of pride and honor, to lend himself under expectations of reward, to *acts*, at which he would in the days of his prosperity, have *shuddered*!—It is therefore, not difficult to account for the *quantity* of biographical anecdote which is occasionally to be got through the means that was resorted to by Mrs. Wardle, to serve the cause of her husband.

In this way she traced *people* and *circumstances*, which when brought together and arranged, made a *something* for Colonel Wardle's labors, and though she most likely got every thing in an *exaggerated* garment, yet still it was a *something*, which when *stript of its prison dress*, and assuming a more gaudy *apparel*, the colonel had acquired an opportunity of making the *most* of. In this way Mrs. Wardle's dwelling became a repository for a *mixture* of all kinds of *truth* and *falsehood*, which *misery*, *malice*, and party *furor*, could rake together for M'Cullum, the foreman of these political scavengers, who, depositing his load at the feet of his mistress, she began to *sort* and *separate* the *rubbish* for its different *intended purposes*.

It is incredible to state the number of idle people who used to knock at my door, during the investiga-

tion, with what they called curious anecdotes of *great men* ! and as an excuse for doing so, said, they had done business for mrs. Wardle. Of these unpleasant visits I complained to the colonel, who was angry at my conduct, but desired that they might in future, be sent to his house, which mandate my servants accordingly obeyed.

So enthusiastic was the lady in the cause, that she was employed night and day for her dear husband, and to her credit be it spoken, that impediments only appeared to increase her energies, and whet her appetite to forward his prosperity. I have been informed, that his house, *at that time*, appeared like the dwelling of a member, during an election, who is obliged to feed a succession of hungry constituents, that after many professions of *independence and liberty*, generally give their votes where they *find the BEST TABLE* !

Another scheme by which colonel Wardle, under the direction of his wife, endeavored to *acquire information*, was, that of finding out, and getting acquainted with *some of the minor clerks* in the different public offices, and those of a higher class, if circumstances afforded an opportunity ; from these individuals the colonel possessed himself of much *garbled and uncertain* matter, out of which, he at last set up a principle, of saving the nation *eleven millions* a year !

In case it should be said that I am speaking too generally in making *such a charge*, I will give one or two individual instances of his having meanly attempted to *suborn* a gentleman in the treasury, to afford him the *secrets* of his *office*, for his own political use.

Colonel Wardle became acquainted with a physician, at my house, by the name of Metcalfe, of whom I shall shortly have an occasion to speak. This worthy man has a respectable relative, by the name of *Wentworth Rigg*, who holds a situation in the treasury, of about £300 a year ; and, as it was the *business* of the colonel to *pry* into the affairs of every person with

whom he came in contact, I shall not surprise the reader by informing him, that he soon found out every particular, relative to the nephew of the worthy doctor; through whom, the colonel tried to *become* acquainted with mr. Rigg. When the colonel's acquaintance grew *into* a kind of *confidential intimacy*, by promises of friendship and esteem for dr. Metcalfe, he *had* the villainy to ask him, to solicit mr. Rigg, to COPY from the BOOKS of his office, THE WHOLE OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HALF-PAY FUND, *in return for which act of civility*, he assured the Doctor, that mr. R. should have A SITUATION OF DOUBLE THE VALUE, AS SOON AS HIS FRIEND, THE DUKE OF KENT, CAME INTO POWER !!!

I am sure I need not inform the reader what was the *answer and feeling* of Dr. Metcalf, as a RESPECTABLE and HONEST man; but the colonel knows perfectly well, that the worthy physician *despised him*, for offering such an insult to his honor; and there, as may be supposed, the *patriot's friendship ended* towards that gentleman. As the colonel and his wife were on the constant *look-out* for any *body*—or, any *thing*, that would afford him an opportunity of making a noise *in the house*, that he might increase his popularity, he discovered, through mr. Glennie, that colonel Shrapnel, was *angry with government*, for not having *used his shells* in preference to Congreve's rockets; and like a disappointed author, expressed his contempt and hatred of all those who did not happen to think *favorably* of his works. Mr. Glennie was then employed to bring colonel Shrapnel and Wardle together, which he accordingly did, that the *neglected genius* might unbosom all his *secrets and wrongs*, to the *great public accuser* of the year 1809—who, as a monopolizing tradesman in politics, cleared the *market* of every *article* in his *line*, that he might retail it out himself to the best advantage!—a principle that

does not accord with the duties of a *patriot* in a commercial nation !

Whether there has lately been any demand for the kind of *articles* deposited by colonel Shrapnel, in the *store house* of this political tradesman, I will not presume to determine, but be assured, reader, that *when* the *market's up* he will, like *other monopolizers*, expose his old stock of *tainted trash*, to pall upon the *sense* of his former *friends and customers*, at st. Stephens !

There is scarcely a public office that was within the *influence* of colonel Wardle's bribery, but what afforded him some kind of information in proportion to the *infidelity* of its clerks ; who, like every other description of people, are not always *above temptation* ; and like *Judas*, had the same *weighty* reason for betraying their master !—major Dodd performed his part of this *kind of service*, and through the *dirtiest efforts*, acquired documents, &c. &c. out of mr. Greenwood's office, while he was in the habit of calling there two or three times a week. under pretence of *professing his*, and the duke of Kent's esteem for that gentleman ! As another instance of the *zeal* of this party, I cannot forego the mention of mr. Glennie's anxiety to serve the duke of Kent. While writing my former book, he begged me to allow him to introduce some *improvements*, as he termed them, into it ; which on enquiry, I found to be, a wish to *mix up* the duke of Kent's *grievances*,* with my narrative. Accordingly he began his interpolation of matter, by the most fulsome eulogium on the duke's *virtues*, which on reading, I instantly saw there would be an impropriety

* As I am in possession of all the circumstances attending the duke of Kent's conduct, while he was governor of Gibraltar, it is not improbable but I shall publish a curious history of his *courage, military and political actions*, together with an entertaining account of the discovery of st. Lawrence !—If part of this note should appear to be enveloped in mystery, the duke of Kent has it in his power to give it a *copious illustration* !!!

in making my book the vehicle of the prince's spleen towards his brother, the duke of York I therefore, *erased* it, and told mr. Glennie, that I had made up my mind that my publication should *not contain any subjects but those within my own knowledge*; and thus mr. Glennie was deprived of the opportunity and pleasure of bestowing praise on the great military *talents and virtues* of his royal friend!

In one of mr. Glennie's *fits* of *panegyrising* his favorite prince, he observed, that the duke's affection for his old French lady, whom, he lamented he could not marry, was a proof of his *steady disposition*, and domestic good qualities, added to which, he regularly went to church, and was never *seen inebriated*—a *habit* he always endeavored to check in those, over whom he had any influence—though major Dodd, as a particular favorite, was allowed occasionally, to take that enemy into his mouth which stole away his brains. Mr. Illingworth, as I have before observed, confirmed mr. Glennie's declaration of the duke's temperance—a *quality* that was sure to engage the *attention* of a wine-merchant, as well as his displeasure!

I hope mr. Glennie will not be offended with my asking him, through whose *interest* he got his *present situation*, as teacher of mathematics in the national academy, at Woolwich?—I am inclined to believe, that his *private services* have in the end, been better rewarded than those of the colonel's;—the one has *five hundred* a year, as the master of a school, and the other has not yet been made SECRETARY at WAR! When he is secretary at war, I shall expect to see the disappointed knight, of Bridge-street, *chancellor of the exchequer*!—or, *ambassador at Paris*; or, at least, a BARONET!—I am sure sir Richard will understand me!

Amidst the variety of dirty business which was allotted to M. Cullum, mrs. Wardle sent him to *watch* the movements of the duke of York at

mrs. Carey's ; accordingly he formed an acquaintance with a person who was a sort of chandler, next door to her residence, with a view to get introduced to her, and from which place he, or some other amiable *character*, used to watch mrs. Carey and the duke. Finding, however, that all attempts failed to get acquainted with her, major Dodd went to work to accomplish that very desirable object ; and after many enquiries to find out the most certain means of *establishing* an intimacy in mrs. Carey's house, he got hold of an officer who had painted a miniature of the duke of York, and bribed him to undertake the *agreeable task*. Accordingly this *son of Mars*, offered his pictorial efforts for sale, to mrs. Carey, who thinking, as I was informed, that he asked too much for the portrait, objected to buy it, and there terminated his embassy. Various other attempts were made to get a footing in this lady's house, but whether she was *suspicious* of the party, or they managed their business with a bad address, I cannot say ; but it appeared that all efforts to make her instrumental in their designs, proved ineffectual.

When it was understood that I did not mean to publish my book, a report got into circulation, that mr. McCullum was in possession of a copy of it, which he intended to publish at a bookseller's, near the royal exchange ; I accordingly wrote to mr. Glennie upon the subject, and received the following answer :—

“ *Woolwich common,*
“ *Tuesday, April 25, 1809.*

“ DEAR MADAM,

“ Your friendly letter of yesterday, I have just had the pleasure of perusing, and you may rest assured, that I will lose no time in getting the injurious report you complain of, contradicted by mr.

McCullum himself, and your wish in this respect complied with; I can hardly bring myself to think, that he would go to any printer, and wantonly offer to do what he knew it was utterly out of his power to accomplish; I am therefore, inclined to believe, that there is some mistake in the business. Be this, however, as it may. I will take care to have it rectified; should it be in my power, I will call on you for a few minutes on Thursday or Friday next.

“ Offer my best wishes to miss Taylor, and believe me to be, with much truth, your most sincere well wisher,

And very humble servant,
THOMAS GLENNIE.”

Mrs. M. A. Clarke.

And afterwards the following from mr. McCullum :—

“ MADAM,

“ On the 28th ultimo, I received a letter from mr. Glennie, which I laid aside, being determined to pay no attention to its contents, because it imputed to me circumstances, which are so totally *destitute of truth*, and whoever informed you of my being with a mr. Edwards, or any other person, offering a book to publish, must have been aware he was deceiving you. I have not the honor of knowing any person of that name, and I am equally certain I did not offer the manuscript of a book to any *bookseller or printer in London*, nor asserted that you employed me to copy your publications; my ill state of health, at the time, made me indifferent about either *yourself*, or your *production*, and therefore I refused mr. Glennie to contradict a report which I never circulated. However, on enquiry, I was informed you had, in a variety of instances indulged your wit maliciously at my expence. That you kept me out of charity, and gave me £.10, to

keep your name out of the newspapers, in a trial you had in the court of common pleas, together with other circumstances equally false and disgusting to my feelings; on hearing such reports, I stated to sir Richard Phillips, that I thought your conduct not only extraordinary, but ungrateful, and on that account, *public justice would oblige me to publish every thing that came within my knowledge, respecting the late investigation.* In your letter of the 11th instant, there is a vile insinuation, which I cannot pass over without reprobation. You say, if others have made you promises which they have not fulfilled, or if they have any way neglected you, it is not my fault, &c. certainly it is not your fault, if others have not fulfilled promises *which they never made*, I have no fault to impute to them, as they are not *under any obligation to me*, I have no claim upon them, and never considered myself neglected in any instance; your case is totally different, the public are convinced THAT YOU ARE UNDER AN OBLIGATION TO THE PARTIES YOU ARE NOW REVILING, though they never MADE YOU PROMISES, NO MORE THAN THEY DID TO ME. FOR AT THE TIME I FOUND YOU OUT, I WAS NOT CONNECTED WITH THEM BUT VERY SLIGHTLY, and it was by your OWN EXPRESS DESIRE, that I INTRODUCED YOU TO MR. WARDLE, OF WHOSE CHARACTER. you informed me, you had a previous knowledge; my original view was to serve you, without any hope of remuneration, and how far I have performed my duty, the public will soon decide between us; I am sure they will not give you much credit for the part you have acted in abusing me.

I am, madam,

Your most obedient,

Humble servant,

P. F. M'CULLUM "

(Directed)

" Castle-street, Coffee house, Strand;

" Mrs. CLARKE,

16th May, 1802."

Westborne place,

Sloane-square, Chelsea."

It is impossible to possess a more important document to illustrate the true character of this *poor wretch*, and the description of persons with whom I unfortunately formed an acquaintance, than the one I have laid before the reader. He begins his letter with a gross falsehood, in stating that he had not applied to a bookseller, to publish what he was *then pleased to call a copy of my book*. A publisher, of the name of Blacklock, took orders for this embryo work, which was only announced, I suppose, to *extort* money from me!—So much then for the first part of this man's *stuff*; in which he goes on to observe, that “*justice would oblige him to publish every thing*,” &c. &c —A pretty fellow to talk of *justice*, who, if otherwise than *blind*, *she* would have seen him *hanged* for being a spy* at *Trinidad*, where major Dodd saved a *traitor* to become a future *spectacle of criminal jurisprudence*, had not Providence held out the *hand of mercy*,† and *snatched him* from the *ignominious line*, that *suspends* a villain from being of future mischief to his country!

As to the abuse which he accuses me of having bestowed on him, it does not deserve any notice, further than to observe, that I believe he would have *fabricated any thing* as a plea for *writing the sentiments* of his employers, and getting them if possible, clear out of *their engagements*. If the reader will employ a moment's reflection on the lines distinguished in *italics and capitals*, and then turn his eye to the first pages of this work, he must be convinced that *Pierre McCullum, esq.* was in every way calculated for the service of his worthy master, colonel Wardle!

He says, I am under an obligation to colonel Wardle and major Dodd, though in a line or to further on,

* See note to p. 9.

† Colonel Wardle is said to have buried him.

he observes, his *original view was to serve me, and yet*, according to the *excellent reasoning*, of the above letter, I am to have nothing but *empty praise*, (and scarcely that) for all my services to the colonel, and his party. This ridiculous epistle must convince the reader, that they could assign any motives for their conduct as would best accord with the expediency of the moment. I am ready to *make oath*, that I never spoke to colonel Wardle, or had any communication with him, before M'Cullum found me out for *the express purpose* of bringing about an acquaintance between us, and I also am ready to declare on *oath*, that I never saw M'Cullum, till he solicited an interview with me; as I have explained more at length in the beginning of this work. This *ingenious* letter, however, shews with what great *philanthropy* he sought to *serve me*, and after all, it appears that I am not to be *served*; as he observes, "*there was no promise made to me !*" What a knowledge this man of *letters* must have had of *logic*: sir Richard Phillips believing that M'Cullum was in possession of some of the duke of YORK's letters, and also a copy of my work, as he *professed to be*, thought that if he could get *this valuable manuscript* out of his hands for a few hundred pounds, he most probably might make something handsome of them, either in a pecuniary point of view, or in the flattering compensation of an *additional honor*, and therefore *sinking his imaginary consequence*, and assuming his *best behavior*, he courted, (which is not very common) the author, instead of the author being obliged to court him. Among his *temporary civilities*, he invited M'Cullum to his country house, at Hampstead, who, thinking that a good dinner was no *bad thing*, did the knight the honor of a visit, on I believe the first Saturday after he sent me the preceding letter.

I need not describe the eagerness of sir Richard, to come at the darling object of his ambition, and as M'Cullum afterwards related the conversation, I understand that he was offered 500*l.* for the copy-

right of his *supposed stolen property* ! The reader may easily suppose, that as he had nothing to *dispose of*, he could not accede to the *proposed terms*, and therefore sir Richard finding nothing was to be done with his *visitor*, began to probe him upon other matters relative to his party, and his opinion of the disposal of my work.

This threw M'Cullum into a great rage, when he informed the knight, that as I had received a large sum of money, and was also to have an annuity ; he expected me, to make him a *handsome reward*, as he *first found me out*, which if I neglected to do, he *was determined to prevent* me from having the annuity ;—that he would BLOW UP THE WHOLE SET OF US ; that it was an *infamous plot*, and THAT HE WAS ACQUAINTED WITH THE WHOLE AFFAIR !!! He then enumerated the parties concerned, in which he included the name of *lord Folkstone*. Sir Richard, fearing that M'Cullum might deny all that was said, from his knowledge, I suppose, of his being a *great rascal*, requested a friend who was in the next room, to be present, who, I am informed, came in and heard him repeat the latter part of his remarks, with respect to the plot, &c. &c.

Sir Richard knowing, no doubt, of what dangerous *materials the agent* of a conspirator is in general composed, began to fear that his *friend Wardle* might be ruined by the *infidelity* of a character, who would have sold his parent, or any of the *dearest ties of nature*, for a hundred pounds, immediately wrote to solicit an interview with lord Folkstone upon the subject, who accordingly called upon sir Richard, when he communicated all the latter part of his conversation, (leaving his desire of the book out of question) relative to *the threat* held out by M'Cullum. Lord F. very coolly and very honestly observed, *that he did not understand what was meant by it*, as he knew nothing of the business until it came before the house of commons—a tact of which I shall shortly be able to

convince the reader. When his lordship called upon me, he related his conversation with sir Richard, and asked me, whether there was any *truth* in M'Cullum's *account of a plot* ; I told him that at some future period I might be at liberty to *say more* upon the subject, but at present I was obliged to decline going further into the business—that if his lordship was disposed to attend to the information of sir Richard, he perhaps, might learn something more of the affair from colonel Wardle, who (if he pleased) could *explain every thing* !

If we cast our eyes over the pages of history, and take into our consideration, that man is quite the creature of circumstances—that his *fears* and *courage* are worked upon by the accidental appearance of *reward* and *punishment*, as quicksilver rises and falls by the versatile state of the atmosphere, we shall not be surprised that conspiracies have generally failed to the extent of their author's views. Here we see a fellow who was living, or rather starving, on the bounty of a *conspirator*, about to *sell him and all his glory*, because he could not get a *share* of my *property*, though his master had not in *any instance*, violated his professions of friendship to him ! One day he was standing up in *the cause* of his patron ; the next day we see him *ready* to stand up for *his destruction* ! and thus it is, the whole machinery of *such a man's heart* is regulated but by *two springs* ;—the one that turns up the fears of the *gallows*—and, the other that affords him a prospect of *wealth* !

Taking a retrospect of some of the recent exertions of those persons who have formed plans on the continent, for either the restoration of monarchy, or some other change in the government, as in the case of *generals Pichegru and Moreau*, or in the still more recent case, if correctly given by the French papers, of an endeavor to obtain the liberty of Ferdinand VII. of Spain, and restore him to his legitimate throne, it may be clearly seen, that the *agents of these*

acts, defeated the object of their embassy, through the operation of the *passions*, which ought to be so *disciplined*, as to *sleep* with such persons. Indeed, the freedom of the British government will not admit of carrying into effect, a private plan of hostility on the continent, for *many reasons*; one of which *is*, that though it has the ability of bestowing rewards in case of success, it cannot *inflict* punishment beyond that of *contempt* and *future disregard*, if its agents, either through *fear* or too much *anxiety*, as in the case of Ferdinand, fail in the accomplishment of their object. Now the *arbitrary* government of France can, not only reward as well as the english do, but it can go further with a *weak-nerved* and *unsuccessful* agent, who if not hanged when found out by his enemy, is soon lost to the world after his return to Paris; and if you want to seek him, you must inquire of the executioner, at the door of the Temple!

Hence it is, that the french can do business of this kind better than the english. An englishman on his return from an unsuccessful embassy, has *his offence* as his *shield of safety*, and returns to society with the confidence of a *hero*, and if he should *ever reflect* upon his errors, he has only *to regret*, that nature had not given him a *cool head*, and *more courage*, while his employers have to reproach themselves for having sent out a person of such a delicate *texture of nerve*!

Another probable reason of our ill success in these kind of things is, that the englishman, from the natural freedom of his government, has much to fear when employed on an embassy of a *private* nature; first, because he is generally coupled with associates, whose success and lives are greatly dependant on each other, and for whose *fears* and *indiscretion* he cannot be accountable; and secondly, that the *dwelling*s of our leading *political men*, are too full of *foreign servants*, who are the most dan-

gerous SPIES that can possibly infest a nation, and who very naturally love to see that COUNTRY FLOURISH which gave them birth, consequently they eat english *beef*, to enable them to tell english *secrets*, and thus the french government soon gets at the movements of our cabinet.

Such impressions operating even upon the mind of a *cool metaphisical man*, are almost enough to agitate his nerves, and induce him to fear that every time the wind shakes his window, the french police is coming into his bed-chamber to take him away.

The person who is employed to bring about any great *events*, such for instance as bringing away the incarcerated Monarch, whose presence, in his own convulsed nation, might *palsy* the enemy's sword and ultimately restore it to all its wonted greatness, ought to be possessed of qualities a little above the ordinary standard of men, otherwise the *policy* of his country will become exposed, and *his life* pay for the folly of its choice, and his own *weakness* !

In colonel Wardle, we have seen what a political agent is—I therefore, will attempt to describe what such a character ought to be :—He should possess great natural endowments, and be a perfect master of the *passions, prejudices and infirmities* of mankind, so as he may at a moment be able to turn human weakness to the advantage of his own immediate purpose ; he ought to have a pretty general knowledge of political events, which living on the mind as a finger post of direction—or a beacon of guard, he may be instantly able to steer without observance amidst the rocks and quicksands of his dangerous station. He ought to be *quick in conception*, and *cool in execution*, and *Proteus* like, change his nature with every gale, without suffering the little storms of his service, to ruffle a mind which

ought to *bend coolly* to every difficulty, for the attainment of its ends !

Now even such a character, pursuing his political course with another, must act under great apprehension of his associate's ability and indiscretion, and therefore, no political operation of this kind can be so well *affected*, as when left to one clever individual, (if circumstances will admit) who, conscious of all resting upon himself, moves without the dread of being betrayed by the *fears, weakness, or interest* of his colleague.

If colonel Wardle were such a character as I have described, what mischief would be *within his power* !—but *his head* was never designed for any thing *beyond daring and impudent blunders*, and the violence of his *disposition* only tended to *expose them*. Perhaps providence, in its wisdom, has so constructed our nature, for the security of public happiness, that but very few men possess the necessary qualities, *for shaking the throne of a nation* ; and where that great invisible cause has given a head for *evil*, it has also given a *heart* to counteract its dangerous power ; and where it has given the *heart* of a Wardle, it has given a *head* also, to counteract and defeat the *effect* of its *black designs*.

Returning again to the proceedings in parliament, I must be allowed to inform the reader, that on the eleventh day of the investigation, being I believe, on the 20th of February, I found myself unable to attend the house in consequence of indisposition, and as doctor Metcalf was then in the habit of meeting colonel Wardle and his party at my table, I got him to attend the house, and to state my inability to be then examined, which he did and my attendance was accordingly dispensed with on that evening. On the forenoon after my last examination in the house, colonel Wardle and major Dodd called on me, contrary to their promise of not being seen at Westborne Place till the *duck*

of the day ;* lord Folkstone happened to drop in by accident, and on finding them MUCH AGITATED, began to suspect there *was something between us*, beyond that which had met the public eye; and though he had nothing of any moment to say or communicate to me, he felt inclined to *stay* and *watch* the conduct of the colonel and major Dodd. At this time, I should inform the reader, I was confined to my bed, and after many entreaties from Dodd and Wardle, to see me, I desired (in *rather angry* terms) to know what it was that occasioned them to urge an interview, when I was so indisposed.

Before I introduce lord Folkstone to the notice of my reader, I must be permitted to pay a tribute of respect to *his honor and abilities*. His lordship was no way connected with the persons who constitute the leading feature of this work. He identified himself with the investigation upon *public grounds*, and only visited me under the impression of having been an injured woman, who was provoked to *measures*, at which my nature appeared to revolt. Under these honorable impressions, lord Folkstone called forth the energy of a vigorous understanding into the *supposed* service of his country, and upon the same principle of becoming my friend, he united *himself* with the politics of colonel Wardle, as it will be shortly seen by AN IMPORTANT LETTER from his lordship to me.

When lord Folkstone found they wished to be admitted into my bed-chamber for a private conference, he insisted on being present, as he very *properly thought*, he had a right to know all the circumstances attending a measure to which he had lent his *public support*. Finding that nothing I could *say* or *do*, would excuse me from receiving

* See page 32,

their visit I at last gave my assent, and the colonel and lord Folkstone came up. After some commonplace expressions of sorrow at my confinement, the colonel told me, it was highly necessary I SHOULD NOT BE AGAIN CALLED before the house; and though I might be BETTER in health, I MUST affect TO CONTINUE INDISPOSED, AS ANOTHER EXAMINATION MIGHT RUIN THEM!—At these remarks lord Folkstone appeared much surprised, and then observed, that he was of a very contrary opinion, and thought *that if I were well*, I ought to attend the house whenever called upon. After much altercation upon this point, Lord Folkstone told colonel Wardle, that *he was sure* there was something *going on*, with which he was not acquainted, and insisted upon knowing *what it was*, that appeared to disturb him so much and which had thrown him into such an AGITATION. The colonel finding himself so closely *pinned down to the point*, and that an *evasion* would not *turn the SUBJECT*, he was obliged to tell his Lordship, *that it was of a nature he could not communicate to him*. Lord Folkstone, feeling *a little indignant at this answer*, said, that as he had not been made acquainted with the whole business, he was sorry he had *lent himself* to the colonel's cause, and immediately went down stairs to major Dodd, who had been left in the parlor.

The reader may naturally suppose, that I had a pretty accurate idea of the colonel's *motives*, for asking me not to appear again at the house of commons, though I was obliged to assume a perfect ignorance of the subject, while lord Folkstone remained in the room.

Where a *variety* of persons are concerned in an *affair*, like that of which I am now writing, and so many agents at work in all directions, to detect every thing that might tend to destroy their schemes in the bud; it will not appear extraordinary, that government acquired *some information of the real*.

cause of the investigation, and of *those persons who secretly organized*, and gave it *their private support*. By a reference to the minutes, it may *be suspected* that the duke of York's friends had been made acquainted with some facts dangerous to colonel Wardle's *popularity*, from the *questions* which they had put to me on my former examination:—colonel Wardle, feeling himself alone, began to unbosom *his fears*, by observing, that he and major Dodd were very apprehensive that government were in possession of circumstances which would prove *unfavorable* to the cause, if I were *again examined*, and though I had most ably *evaded* their questions, yet another examination might lead to the *discovery of the whole plot*; they, therefore, thought it most adviseable to prevent me (if possible) from again attending the house, as the most effectual MEANS OF THEIR OWN SECURITY.

The colonel continued to assure me, that major Dodd had also heard from *various quarters*, that *suspensions were whispering* about, that *he*, and the duke of Kent had *promoted the investigation*, and as I had been already so closely questioned *upon that and other subjects*, they must close their glorious parliamentary career, without the hazard of my future assistance at St. Stephen's. The colonel then took leave of me. I afterwards understood that lord Folkstone, had a very serious conversation with major Dodd, in the parlor, who also refused to impart the *secret* to his Lordship.

Notwithstanding I religiously kept my promise with the colonel and major Dodd, that I would not inform lord Folkstone of the *private* understanding that existed between us, with respect to the duke of Kent being *through* his confidential secretary, the main spring of all the political machinery; his lordship found that the *hounds had not opened* for nothing, and having *caught the scent*, on the above morning, at Bridge-street, he privately pursued the

track till he traced the *retreat* of the *sly fox*, who had been doing so much *mischief* in the *DARK*!

Though I shall presently go more at length into my motives for not publishing my memoirs, in consequence of the extraordinary affidavit, and afterwards personal evidence of Sir Richard Phillips; yet I must here inform the reader, that I did *not hit upon* the *expediency* of becoming an *author* till the latter end of February; a circumstance which I entreat the *PUBLIC* to *bear in memory*, as much *IMPORTANT MATTER* arises from that *FACT*.

When colonel Wardle and his colleagues found that I would not *publish my book*, as I have more than once had occasion to remark, and that it was *become a service of danger*, to *offer me again* to the notice of the house of commons, upon any *new subject*; their *visits* were *less frequent*, and their *whole conduct assumed a different feature*, though they kept up a *sort of respectful politeness*, under the management of a *cold-hearted policy*!

Keeping in mind the maxim of the poet, that "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;" and believing that Shakspear did not mean to exclude females from the advantage of this doctrine, I thought, that I could not as a parent, *do too much* for my children, who had *commenced a very expensive education*, and who have ever been the endearing objects of my care and solicitude; I therefore wrote to colonel Wardle upon the subject of a *subscription*, which several of my friends had suggested, who thinking me deserving of public patronage, and not being acquainted with colonel Wardle's *private pecuniary engagements*, had advised me to this measure!

Having so far explained my *motives*, I beg to introduce to your notice, *not the same* colonel Wardle that I raised from *obscurity*, to the pinnacle of popular admiration, and who *would have eaten the very dirt*

on which *I trod*, at one *time* for my *services*—but a colonel Wardle, who not being *able to make other political uses of me* for the destruction of ***** , began to play the *jesuit*, as may be seen by the following answer to my application, with respect to the subscription, in the drawing up of which, his wife, I suppose afforded him assistance:

“ *March 24.*

“ Thanks for your good wishes, but my poor boy is in that state which renders me *unequal to give my mind to any subject whatever*. I had hoped that your *arrangement about your book*, would have warded off all *present difficulty*, and I hope, I need not assure you, that I shall ever be disposed to promote any plan for your *permanent advantage*; *that you deserve well of your country, I believe, to be a very general sentiment*, but the idea that prevails, that you are living in splendor, militates forcibly *against any thing you suggest*, I wish you would *consult Lord F.* and I anxiously wish, that having *consulted him*, you would attend to his advice. *God BLESS YOU.*”

It does not require much *penetration* to see through the *artifice* of this letter.—Colonel Wardle finding that no further use could be made of me, had only another task to perform, which was to *avoid* in the quietest way possible, the fulfilment of all his promises, and therefore he *enters upon a new plan* of operations, by sending the above document, in which he very artfully begs me to *consult Lord Folkstone* upon the state of my affairs, whose knowledge of all his *private proceedings* he made every *endeavor to prevent*.

It is necessary to inform the reader, that on the receipt of the above extraordinary letter, I wrote back immediately to inform colonel Wardle, that I should be *happy to take Lord Folkstone's opinion* be-

fore that of any *other* person, and begged he would give me leave to explain the whole of the transaction to his lordship; but to this proposition, the *good* colonel *decidedly objected*, and therefore, *at that time*, I did not mention it to lord Folkstone, believing that colonel Wardle would *reconsider* the matter, and see the policy of *being for once in his life wise*—a political *oversight*, I know he has since *regretted*, and which has given him many a *painful hour*; but after advancing a falsehood to the country, in his hasty and foolish address to the people of England; he has been obliged to *wade* through a sea of *iniquity* to support it, and to keep up that *nimbus* of his *POPULARITY*!

I have already given a faithful account of all that I heard pass between the colonel and Lord Folkstone, on their last meeting at my house; and it must appear pretty clear to the reader, that I have stated nothing but facts, as I have mentioned the name of a nobleman who can contradict this *declaration*, if otherwise than true. But I entertain too *high an opinion* of the integrity and honor of lord Folkstone, to *believe* that he will *venture to deny* any part of the above statement. Experience has certainly taught me not to depend on the *honor* or *memory* of any man, particularly when I possess the *means* of doing justice to my own character through the medium of *unanswerable documents*!

After this letter the colonel was, as I have before observed, less frequent at my house, and when any of his *agents* called, every artful excuse was employed to avoid any thing that led to the subject in which I was most interested. I was told, however, that I had broken every agreement, in having withdrawn my intended book from the public eye, and as the colonel and his friends had an *important purpose* to answer through that publication, I had greatly injured and disappointed them—consequently I had no right to expect the fulfilment of their promises. To

this, I replied, that the idea of publishing, did not occur to me till long after their promises of reward, and that as I had accomplished an injury to the duke of York, according to agreement, I felt myself entitled to every penny of the promised remuneration. Upon this principle they endeavored to shuffle, and after *several remonstrances*, I wrote the following letter to colonel Wardle, which no person would, or could have written to another, who had not a JUST CLAIM UPON HIS HONOR:—

“ May 14th, 1809.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ When I sent for you the other day, and you were accompanied by major Dodd, to enquire what were your intentions, with respect to putting your promises into execution; you seemed unwilling to admit that they were made BUT *conditionally*, THIS I DENY. The only construction I can put upon it, is this, that you felt yourself under a heavy responsibility to me, and of which, both yourself and major Dodd thought to get rid of, by future promises, as futile and evasive, neither of which ought, or can succeed.—I will here put you once more in mind of those promises, and of my expectations, which if you value yourselves as men of honor, you cannot but accede to, nor can you think I require any thing, but what I am fully entitled to.—Nothing less than five hundred a year; and as my children have been equal sufferers with myself, in the public opinion, as being the daughters of so indiscreet a mother, they demand from me every thing I can, or ought to command; and therefore, as five hundred a year for my own life, which may be short, would be of no advantage to them, I think, that by letting you off for ten thousand pounds, is not half your promises to me; yet, as I feel aware of what you mentioned the other day, of not having it in immediate power to accomplish,

I expect that you and major Dodd, enter into a joint bond, as you did into joint promises, for ten thousand pounds, to be paid me within two years, and till that be accomplished, to pay me the £500 a year, commencing from March last, and to pay Wright the remainder of his bill.

“ This is all, and surely it is not of half the value of the promises made me, which were these !—As my son was then under the protection of the duke of York, of course would lose that protection as soon as I began upon the duke’s ruin. He was to have equal protection from the duke of Kent.—I withdrew my son, and *I have him now on my hands*. The next was a situation for captain Thompson in some way, enough to keep him, or, in the event of the duke of Kent coming in as commander in Chief, to get him reinstated in the army.—*He still remains as he was !!!*—The next, the payment of the arrears of annuity, as promised me by the duke of York, and the annuity to be continued to me during my life of four hundred per annum: my debts to be paid, those contracted while I lived with the duke of York, and those since.

“ The debt of twelve hundred pounds, which is owing to mr. Comrie, for which he stops my jewels and furniture.

“ My present house and furniture to be paid for, of which a part only is paid by you and Dodd.

“ Now let me ask you, if the ten thousand pounds is equal to half these promises? and for the fulfilment of each, you pledged yourself in the most solemn manner to see performed, and to which I paid the most implicit confidence and belief, or why did I resist, and expose, during the investigation, the overtures made me by *Williams*, of whatever sum that I might ask for, being ready for my acceptance, to make me affluent for life? *Think upon this*. I shall add but little more, but even were this sum to come

out of your own pocket, the character you have acquired *through my means*, would not be more than I am fully entitled to.

"I remain, Dear Sir,

"Your's, &c. &c.

(Signed)

"M. A. CLARKE."

"Take a fortnight to consider; after that time do not depend upon my secrecy, and I shall consider myself at liberty to make what use I please, of the copy of this letter."

No one, I trust, can be so credulous as to believe that I would have made such a *demand* on the purse of another, if previous circumstances had not *warranted every sentence* of this epistle!—The thing speaks so clearly for itself, that I shall not trouble the reader with any further illustration of my letter, beyond that paragraph which speaks of my having withdrew my son from the *protection* of the duke of York for *that* of the duke of Kent. Was it likely, that distressed as I then was, I should have removed my boy *from all the comforts of life*, and advantages necessarily attendant on the duke of York's patronage, for my own *maintenance*, out of the *hundred pounds*, which major Dodd and the Colonel have since *sworn* WAS ALL that they *promised to me for my laborious services* in the house of commons. If the reader should believe this, it will not be difficult to make him believe, that he is walking about without that *useless thing*, called *his own head*!

I suppose this letter threw him into some slight degree of turmoil, as he came with it in his hand, soon after he received it, and begged to see me but as I had previously determined upon my future course of proceeding, my servant did not admit him, as may be seen further on, in my address to the people of the united kingdom.

I must here inform the reader, that before lord

Folkstone left London, he teased me to *confirm* what he *had discovered* of the private history of my expectations, from the duke of Kent, through colonel Wardle and major Dodd, and on my full exposure of every particular, he expressed his *indignation* at the *dirty proceedings*, in very strong and manly language, but observed, that he should see the colonel that very evening in the house of commons, and would *sound* him upon his intentions towards me. On his lordship's next visit, he told me that he had asked colonel Wardle, whether he *knew how* I supported my establishment, as he did *not believe* I was living under the protection of any one—and whether he meant to exert himself for a *subscription*, or to do any other act of pecuniary kindness in return for my *SERVICES*—The colonel felt confused at *these questions*, and after some *little pause*, he said *he did not* know any thing about my affairs, but it was NOT IN HIS POWER TO DO ANY THING FOR ME, and in fact it was not his intention to take *an interest in my concerns*.—His lordship then left him with some *strong observation*, and assured me *that he would cut the dirty fellow*, which I have every reason to believe *he did*; for several months, till his lordship found it political to notice him *again*, in order to *keep up* that SYSTEM OF POLITICS, to which he gives his usual support!!!

Furnished as I feel myself with the means of supporting every sentence of this work, I should be extremely *weak* to suffer either my *respect* or *delicacy*, for the political conduct of any individual, to keep from the public eye a LETTER of any importance to my cause. If what I am about to introduce to the notice of the reader, had been written by a *ministerial man*, or *one* under the influence of *royalty*, it might present itself in a questionable shape!—but when coming directly from a *nobleman* who is an *opponent* to ministers, and who distinguished himself *from principle only*, in colonel

Wardle's cause, it will *alone become* an UNANSWERABLE *defence* and *justification* of my conduct; even though I should *cease to write another line upon the subject!*

Farringdon, June 27, 1809.

Mrs. CLARKE,

Westborne Place,

Sloane square, London.

Folkstone—(Free.)

“ Coleshill house, 27th June.”

“ DEAR MADAM,

“ I thank you for the letter which I have just received from you. It is not dated either as to time or place; so I address this to you at your old house. Let me know when you write me to change the direction. I wish I had some news to send you in return for your entertaining letter, but from this sequestered spot you can expect none—indeed since I came here I have done nothing but attend Bibury—wander about the fields by myself, and eat strawberries, things which are very entertaining and wholesome, but altogether uninteresting to relate. Your letter, on the contrary, is full of interesting matter, whereon, such a hermit as I am at this place, whether he be of a contemplative turn of mind or not, might chew the cud of reflection for many a day. I THINK FROM WHAT YOU SAY, THERE WILL BE HELL TO PAY, IF THE MATTER COMES ON FOR TRIAL. THE WHOLE AFFAIR MUST OUT, AND THE ROYAL BROTHER,* DODD, AND WARDLE, WILL BE EXPOSED. I LAMENT THAT THEY DO NOT FORESEE THIS; OR, THAT THEY DID NOT FORE-

* Duke of Kent.

SEE THIS. AND PREVENT THE *ECLAT*. I DO NOT GUESS WHAT THE LATTER MEANS TO DO, I SUPPOSE HE WILL TRUST TO HIS *POPULARITY* TO BEAR HIM THROUGH, BUT THAT WILL NOT DO—FOR AFTER ALL, THOUGH HIS PART HAS NOT *BEEEN SO BASE* AS THAT OF THE OTHER TWO, *IT HAS BEEN A DIRTY ONE*, AND HE HAS SUFFERED HIMSELF TO BE MADE AN INSTRUMENT OF BY THEM. The thing, however, will do no good to the royal family in general; for though the duke's friends and the ministry, will attempt to invalidate your testimony, in CONSEQUENCE of the promises held out to you, there is so much evidence in your statements—so many corroborating circumstances, and so many people know so many instances of the kind, that the public will not be induced to believe your testimony false. The thing, however will be, doubtless, attempted, and I should not wonder if the duke was to be re-instated. If that should be, I hope you will be prepared to give them some new instances, and proofs of your power, and the duke's subserviency. I suppose the public prints will endeavor to mix me up with *PRE-NAMED TRIO*, but that is quite impossible. Whitbread, Burdett, and myself, can in no degree be involved—at least I have no doubt but that they are as clear as I know myself to be. I saw by the papers, that the Southwark baronet had obtained for you, your letters—mrs. Jackson will now be easy!

“As for Clavering, he is acting the part of a perfect idiot. The best thing he could have done, would have been to have walked quietly out of his goal, and hid himself. The less he is heard of the better for him. Instead of which, however, he is, I see, publishing a book—Clavering writing a book!!!—and as for challenging, if he has a mind to fight every body who speaks ill of him, he WILL HAVE to fire at

every man he meets. The idea of FIGHTING with WHITBREAD, is very bad. He must take care, or he will be running his foolish head into some foolish scrape or another. All this to do, I could contemplate with amusement, or at least I could sit by, and observe all these intrigues at work different ways, with philosophical indifference, were I not fearful you would be the sufferer. I tremble for the settlement of your affairs, which I should presume to be now more distant than ever.

“ I am afraid that you will be tired of this scrawl, which is nearly illegible.—Pray let me hear from you again when any thing occurs, and you have a moment for writing. Your letters sent to Harley-street, as usual, will meet me. Adieu !

Ever sincerely, your's, FOLKSTONE.”

I feel confident that I might here drop my pen in my defence, and rest *satisfied*, that I have already done all that the public *expected* and required of me! —But Machiavel's prince, the great STAR that lighted Buonaparte along the murky path to his present glory, forbids that policy which allows *too much* indulgence to your enemy, of whose *revenge*, he observes, there should be left no reason *to fear*.

Impressed with a belief, that those persons who endeavored *to swear* me into a gaol, and perhaps a pillory, and, who sought the destruction of myself and children, do not deserve *much* lenity, I shall proceed to unmask their actions, for the contempt and derision of the world!

As the names of sir Francis Burdett and mr. Whitbread are mentioned in lord Folkstone's letter, (I feel myself called upon to *corroborate* his lordship's declaration) of their having been *in no way connected* with the *private proceedings* of colonel Wardle and major Dodd. Like lord F. they only acted upon public principles, when the charges became a subject of parliamentary discussion.

Of both these gentlemen I am bound to speak in the most grateful terms, and to express my admiration of their private worth, and great abilities. With the politics of sir Francis I have nothing to do or say, farther than I believe he means well, though *imprudently too violent*, and not very *choice* as to the character of his *political associates* !

When sir Francis possesses himself of a more perfect knowledge of colonel Wardle's character, I think he will be *sorry* that he has recently suffered *such a man*, during the commotion in Piccadilly, to *crawl up his back*, and seat himself upon *unpoluted* shoulders, in order that the *lustre* of his character might afford a transient ray to play round a visage so deeply clouded with guilt !

If mr. Gillray, the ingenious caricaturist, were to employ his pencil upon Wardle's artful method of again trying to raise himself in the public opinion, the worthy baronet would be seen to labor under as great a *bundle of sin*, as John Bunyan, the hero of "The Pilgrim's Progress !"

The other paragraphs of this important letter are so complete a *defence* of my conduct, and exposure of colonel Wardle, that I shall now leave them for him to *chew the cud of reflection upon*, with what appetite he may ; while I conduct the other of my readers to another part of the subject.

In my letter to colonel Wardle, I promised to wait a fortnight for his answer, but not hearing from him upon the subject, I informed mr. Wright of his conduct to me, in order that he might be upon the alert with respect to his bill. He accordingly, called on the colonel several times, who being always denied, thought it prudent to leave his bill with the following note :

"Francis Wright's respectful compliments to the colonel, has taken the liberty to inclose his bill, and as the articles were to be charged for ready mo-

ney, having met with a most serious disappointment, will thank him to settle the balance, and for that purpose will call upon him to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

“ *Rathbone Place, June 1, 1809.*”

Not hearing from the colonel in due time, Wright again called at his house, when his servant brought out word, that *his master* could not see him, and that he did *not know* any such *person*, nor any *thing* about his *business*, therefore, he *must* have made a *mistake*, and come to the *wrong* house !!!—I am sure the reader will think with me, that such an *answer*, was enough to *enrage* mr. Wright, and induce him to go instantly and consult his attorney, who, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, of which he was well acquainted, advised him to proceed against the colonel immediately, otherwise he would *lose* the advantage of a term.

I wonder whether the colonel knew mr. Wright, when he *personally coaxed* him to do his dirty work in making an inquiry with respect to a lady in the New-road, who was supposed to have been acquainted with a personage of high rank.—I wonder whether he knew mr. Wright when he was soliciting other *favors* of him, with respect to an *officer* in the *Guards*, and endeavoring to make him an instrument of his convenience in a variety of ways, but which favors mr. Wright, though *obliged* to promise, told me, he did not choose to perform, as there was such a person as M'Cullum about the colonel, who was better fit for that kind of dishonorable business than himself.

Mr. Wright had now no alternative left for the recovery of his money, but by a legal proceeding against the colonel, who accordingly soon understood that he had to dispute the point with John Doe and Richard Roe.

Before the cause came on to be tried, the colonel very naturally had several consultations with his

counsel, whom as I before observed, he *deceived* with respect to the *real merits of the case*.

Mr. Cobbett having got wind of the impending danger of his friend's *popularity*, made some enquiries upon the subject, and hearing, through mr. Waithman the linen-draper, that he had seen the colonel's brief, which evinced an *unspotted case*, he gave him his assurance of support in his *Weekly Register*, but expressed a desire to see a fair copy of it, which mr. Corfield immediately prepared with all *necessary omissions*, and Wardle sent off to Botley.—Cobbett and Waithman being impressed with a belief that this brief contained the *whole* transaction, and it in no way impeached the character of their friend Wardle, as a *gentleman*, and a *man of honor*, they predicted the most favorable *result* to his cause.

As the trial approached, and as colonel Wardle's *fears* gradually made him *unfold* circumstances that were not at all *touched upon* in the briefs which had been *prepared* expressly to preserve his *character* with Cobbett and Waithman, mr. Corfield began to *see a little more* into the *real* situation of his client, and advised accordingly.

It is said that he who deceives his physician or lawyer, deceives himself, and this was precisely the case with the colonel, who told *one* thing one day, and *another* afterwards, and only in the *moments* of agitation, let the *facts drop out*, which he *often* appeared ready to *re-swallow*, and twist any way by falsehood!

One morning, after a long consultation with mr. serjeant Best, who afforded him no hopes of his cause, and who predicted the destruction of that *fair fabric of fame*, the colonel had labored so much to rear;—he, under great agitation of mind, requested mr. Corfield to call at Rathbone Place, and see whether Wright was disposed to any terms of settlement, while he waited at the corner of Percy-street. Accordingly they walked thither, when mr. Corfield

left him, during his visit to the plaintiff's house, who not being in the way, he had a conversation with his brother, mr. Daniel Wright.

I understand mr. Daniel Wright told mr. Corfield that his brother had no wish to expose the colonel's *pecuniary situation* with *me*, or *himself*—that all he looked to, was the payment of his bill, and that he did not wish to *inforce* it in any way immediately *distressing* to the pocket of colonel Wardle—but, as it was a just demand, his brother would *not* be frightened out of his money!—he then begged to refer him to mr. Stokes, who, he was sure, would do every thing that was fair and honorable. After some few miscellaneous observations, mr. Corfield left mr. Daniel Wright, for his client in Percy-street, whom he of course made acquainted with the particulars of his interview. This gentleman then waited upon mr. Stokes, who refused to settle the business any other way than by the verdict of a jury, unless colonel Wardle would allow his liability to perform the promise he made to mr. Wright, leaving only the amount of the debt to arbitration. From golden-square, he accompanied mr. Corfield to the fields adjacent to Westborne place, where he waited *an hour*, while his solicitor was employing his best *efforts* with me, in the service of the colonel.

At this time, the public prints had got hold of some of the leading circumstances attending the suit, and colonel Wardle was consequently placed in an awkward situation. If he settled the bill, he feared it would be a tacit acknowledgment of his *bribery* to me, and therefore he pictured to himself all the frightful dangers attendant on the trial of the action. Under these agonizing sensations of his then present predicament, he *asked* mr. Corfield, as they passed through Bedford-square, to put him in the way of obtaining the *chiltern hundreds*, as he should *dread* to again *face the house of commons*. Mr. Corfield told him, that

the house would be most likely up before the trial came on, and that the succeeding session of parliament, could not take *cognizance* of the proceedings of the former; he, therefore, advised him not to be too hasty upon resigning his seat in the house, as accident and time might do much in his favor.

Raised again into hope, by the agreeable consolation of his solicitor, he determined to brave the storm till fresh difficulties crowded in upon him. His counsel asked questions which he never expected, and was therefore not prepared to meet; and thus each day encircled him with embarrassment. Mr. Corfield, at last, *picked out of his client*, by stratagem, *too much* of his case; that is to say, he acquired such of the *facts* which had been at first studiously concealed, that were likely to prove fatal to his defence of the action. He had, however, a duty to perform to his client, and as he could not pay the money, he had to meet the enemy with all the generalship in his power.

A day or two before the trial colonel Wardle wrote a paper of instructions to mr. Corfield, which he *has NOW IN HIS POSSESSION* !

“ If mr. Daniel Wright should swear *so and so*, (then explaining particulars) be prepared for him, as he will perjure himself—and if mrs. Clarke should swear *so and so*, she will also perjure herself.”

When this paper was shewn to mr. Serjeant Best, he very properly said, “ good God, how should colonel Wardle *KNOW ALL THIS*, if he did not know that the reverse of *SUCH SUPPOSED* evidence is *THE TRUTH* and the truth of course is *against him !!!*” *Wise and honorable colonel Wardle !*

When mr. Corfield was about to draw his last brief (for I believe there were several) he requested colonel Wardle to bring major Dodd and all the persons concerned in the cause, that he might examine them upon the *nature and extent* of their respective testi-

mony. But the colonel objected to it, under some *frivolous excuse*, and the brief was drawn for the **SOLE INSTRUCTIONS** of the defendant, who did not introduce him to major Dodd and mr. Glennie, till on the morning of the trial, at the king's arms coffee-house, near Westminster hall.

As soon as the ceremony of the introduction was over, the colonel then *ventured* to tell a little more of his case to Corfield;—he informed him for the *first time*, of his having taken me to the Martello towers, and having given me a *sum of money*, a *fact*, which he *had before positively denied to him and his counsel*, and which of course formed a *strong feature of the brief*. Mr. Corfield, as may be supposed, was *greatly surprised* at this circumstance, and putting a few questions to Dodd, he soon found that their *cause was hopeless*.

The major now expressed a wish that he might not be examined, but observed that he was subpoenaed on my side, though he hoped the service was not legal, as the subpoena had been given to him on a Sunday.

In order to secure Dodd from the danger of receiving *another subpoena*, till mr. Corfield consulted counsel upon the legality of the service, he by the advice of colonel Wardle, went to the Bridge-street tavern, and locked himself up. The colonel and his solicitor then agreed, that if the counsel were of opinion the service *was good*, mr. C. would forward to him by M'Cullum, the following laconic note "Yes, send him!" which accordingly was forwarded in a few minutes. The trial had now commenced, and in order to satisfy the impatience of his client, he communicated the heads of my evidence to him, to which he replied by note, through the medium of the above messenger, that Dodd could not **CONTRADICT ME**, and after mr. Corfield had shewn his note to mr. Parke, he went and consulted col. Wardle upon the propriety of calling his witnesses, and the colonel left

it entirely to the *discretion* of his counsel. If I have mistated any thing in which mr. Corfield was concerned, he is able to *refute it and reduce* the value of my narrative, but I am sure he is too much a man of honor to advance a falsehood, and therefore I think, he *cannot deny these facts*.

If I were disposed to dilate upon the manner in which the colonel defended this action, there is an ample space to exhibit him for the sport and derision of the public; but I shall not trespass upon the time of my reader by travelling over a beaten path, particularly as the subject came under my notice, in my address to the people of the United Kingdom, as given in another part of this work, in answer to his appeal to the public.

It therefore will be sufficient for me to state here, that mr. Wright obtained a verdict, leaving it to mr. Lowten to deduct from the bill of £1919 14 2, the £500, paid by the bill of Illingworth, the £200, for goods sent to Westborne place on hire, previous to colonel Wardle's going to mr. Wright; the coals, insurance, carpenters, painters, bricklayers, and iron monger's bills allowing only for the articles of upholstery, at the sum of £1095 8 5.

I do not mean to quarrel, with the propriety of this decision, but I cannot forego the opportunity I now have of observing, that as mr. Wright furnished the ironmongery, and paid for all the other things, at the request of colonel Wardle he ought not to have been a *loser* of the extra charge, *merely* because they were not articles *out of his own warehouse*.

Amidst all those curious *acts* which may have *marked* the colonel's *career* through life, and disturbed the tranquility of his midnight repose, either in *Ireland* or *England*, *none* ever shook his peaceful slumbers so severely as the loss of his *cause*, and its consequent exposure; and as it rendered sleep that night a stranger to his eye-lids, he rose in a violent rage from his downy pillow early the next morning, to dispatch

his servant with a note to mr. Corfield, requesting his immediate attendance and advice, who anticipating his client's dreadful state of mind, hastened to him. When mr. Corfield entered the room, he found the poor Patriot, with a newspaper in his hand, pacing his chamber backwards and forwards, like a maniac, first *throwing* it down, then picking it up and reading with violent emotion, a few lines of *the history of his own folly*. After his solicitor thought he had exhausted his paroxysm of rage, he endeavored to soothe his agitation, when he again took up the paper, and casting his eye over the *awful page*, he burst out, "here the b—h has perjured herself—here we have her!" then taking his pen, he underlined the words or passages, which to his inflamed understanding, appeared to constitute *perjury*.—On the supposed discovery of my having *perjured myself*, he, mad-man-like, displayed all the transitions of insanity, and now amused mr. Corfield by jumping round the room with *expressions* of joy! mr. Corfield again entreated him to be calm, and taking the newspaper out of his hands, began at his desire to minute down what he was pleased to call *perjuries*, when the colonel again jumped up, and said—"Corfield, *I must do something to stop the peoples mouths;—take a sheet of paper and write.*" The colonel then dictated several lines, read them, tore them in pieces—began again, was again dissatisfied; dictated a third and fourth time, and was not yet pleased. At last Corfield drew up an address that met with his approbation, of which mrs. Wardle made one copy, and mr. C. the other, for immediate insertion in different papers; but he observed to the colonel, that it would be prudent not to insinuate any thing to the prejudice of his counsel, till he had seen the *slip* of paper he himself had sent into court, which mr. Corfield assured him, *forbad* mr. Serjeant Best and mr. Park from calling major Dodd as a witness, and he then left the mad patriot for his own dwelling, in order to search for the slip of paper, the purport of which, the

colonel had either *forgotten*, or did not then find it *convenient to recollect*. This slip of paper, I have understood, was never found, and I need not inform the reader, that the colonel rashly carried his determination of publishing, into effect, for, on the second day after the trial, he had the *courage*, or rather *madness*, to publish the following address :—

To the people of the United kingdom.

“Honored as my parliamentary conduct has been by the approbation of so many of my countrymen, I feel myself called upon, in consequence of an event that yesterday took place, immediately to address you, and that in vindication of my character, rendered open to attack from the verdict of the Jury, upon the evidence of Mrs. Clarke and Mr. Wright, the brother of the upholsterer, in a cause in which I was defendant, in the court of king’s bench. The detail of the evidence the public prints will afford. It is with me to state, that my counsel, satisfied in their own minds that the jury would not, upon such testimony as had been given by the plaintiff’s brother and Mrs. Clarke, alone, find a verdict against me, did not comply with my earnest entreaty (*repeated to them in writing during the trial, in the strongest terms,*) that Major Dodd, Mr. Glennie, and other respectable witnesses, subpoenaed by the plaintiff and myself, might be examined, as I knew their testimony would be *founded in truth*, and be in *direct contradiction* to what had been *sworn against me*. Under such circumstances, the verdict was obtained,—There only remains for me now, BEFORE MY GOD and my country, to declare, that it was obtained by *Perjury alone*; and I do pledge myself to prove that fact, the earliest moment the forms of the law will allow me to do so. Anxiously, therefore, do I look forward to that period; and I trust that *till then*, the public will *suspend their judgment* upon the case.

"With sentiments of the deepest *gratitude* and *respect*, I remain your ever faithfully devoted servant,

"G. L. WARDLE."

"James-street, July 4."

At first I thought of *treating* the above stuff with *contempt*, but finding that every species of villainy was employed to *poison* the public mind *against me*, and the integrity of mr. Wright, I published the following address in the *National Register*, on the 16th of the same month;

MRS. CLARKE

To the people of the United Kingdom.

"Honored as my testimony before the house of commons has been with the confidence of the country at large, and sanctioned as my evidence has been in a recent instance, by a jury of my countrymen, I feel myself called upon (after affording time for the most deliberate reflection,) to address you, in consequence of a circumstance, which has arisen out of the cause, in which mr. Wright, an upholsterer, was plaintiff; colonel Wardle defendant; and mr. Daniel Wright, brother of the plaintiff, and *myself* were witnesses. In this cause it is well known, that colonel Wardle was cast, to the satisfaction of every honest tradesman, and indeed of every body in the court. The detail of evidence the public prints will afford; as far as regards my testimony, these details are somewhat inaccurate, but they are sufficiently correct to have enabled the public to strengthen this verdict, with an almost universal approbation. Colonel Wardle, inflated by a popularity, the extent of which was as *unexpected* as it will be found to have been *undeserved*, had vainly flattered himself, that this same popularity would protect him against the jus-

tice of his country: disappointed at the verdict, he has lost his prudence with his temper, and without giving himself time for reflection, has made an unusual Appeal to the people of the United Kingdom, against the verdict of a jury.

“ As an excuse for this almost unprecedented circumstance, he has stated that his counsel, notwithstanding *his earnest entreaty*, repeated to them in *writing during the trial* in the strongest terms, did not comply with *his request* to examine major Dodd, mr. Glennie, and others. However he may vapor about these witnesses out of court, even colonel Wardle will hesitate, before he ventures to subject them to an examination upon oath, *whilst the written documents exist which will inculcate more exalted persons*, and shake the very foundations of his own *ephemeral POPULARITY*. Colonel Wardle is not ignorant of the reasons which may have induced the suppression of the *written testimony* that would have undeniably corroborated my evidence; colonel Wardle knows that mr. Wright’s servants, as well as others, can prove every syllable that I have sworn; colonel Wardle has been too full of himself, and too imprudent not to have made many unnecessary confidants of his intentions and promises. I dare say the evidence of major Dodd and mr. Glennie, would have been founded in truth,* it would therefore have been madness in colonel Wardle to have examined them, and he knows this; *major Dodd heard my evidence*, he could have contradicted me upon the spot, if I had been wrong, and is there any reason to suppose that he would have had any scruple to have sworn to the truth, if that truth could have contradicted me? Is any one such a fool to believe that? But in this case

* At this time I had no idea that major Dodd and mr. Glennie would ever have *mustered up sufficient courage* to face a court and jury in support of a falsehood; but time has proved, how *deceived I have been* with respect to the character of these men.

the major must have spoken the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. As the attorney general said, his presence, or his absence, equally supported mr. Wright's case.

"I do not pretend to know any thing about law, but I believe I know what is common sense; which I think is more than colonel Wardle appears to know. If he had been content to throw the blame of his failure upon his counsel, it would have been no business of mine, they are able to defend themselves; but to be charged with a crime so disgraceful, so low, so contemptible, and by a person, who of all men, best knows how abhorrent my nature is from any thing like falsehood; to be charged, I say, with perjury, by colonel Wardle, is really too bad. I understand great stress has been laid by colonel Wardle, and some of his partizans, upon a letter which I wrote to him in the month of May last, upon the subject of the engagements and promises made to me prior to the investigation, and this letter is said to have occasioned his determination not to see me any more.

"Why! colonel Wardle called the same day after he had received the letter, and I would not see him, being determined to have no further communication with him except in writing.—Colonel Wardle will recollect the conversation he had with my servant, upon the subject of this letter, and the appointment he made with her, to meet him at seven o'clock that evening, at the chapel door, fortunately, I have a copy of that letter,* and so little am I disposed to conceal any thing I may have either said or written, that if this intimation does not compel colonel Wardle to do me the justice of giving this letter to the public, and no longer to shelter his unmanly insinua-

* See the letter. p. 37, of this volume.

tions, under the cloak of delicacy, I will myself publish it in the newspapers.

“ It only remains for me to declare before God and my country, that the evidence I gave was strictly true, and that my intimacy with colonel Wardle *merely related to my evidence and his promises*, most anxiously therefore do I look forward to the period when the futility of colonel Wardle’s attempts to prove the contrary to be the fact, *will recoil upon himself* and others, and only strengthen the claims which I have to the *public confidence in my veracity*. I trust that till then the public will suspend their judgment upon colonel Wardle’s *intemperate accusation*. Although it may not be equally proper in me, as in colonel Wardle, to state the GRATITUDE and RESPECT I feel for the PUBLIC APPROBATION, yet I hope it is not denied even unto me, to express the anguish of mind I should endure, if upon such an occasion, and in such a manner I had really DESERVED their DISAPPROBATION.

I have the honor to be,

With the greatest respect,

M. A. CLARKE.”

“ *Westborne Place, July 15, 1809.*”

Mr. Wright finding that every engine which *party malice* could bring into use, was at work to drown him in the pit of public censure, thought it necessary to submit his case to the town, but as it is very long and now of no novelty to the public, I shall omit its insertion here, wishing to trespass on the patience of the reader as little as possible with old matter.

I entreat my reader to bear in mind, that my work opens with an account of sir R. Phillips having been *the means* of exposing my plan of supposed conceal-

ment at Hampstead, or at least of giving M'Cullum the clue, where there was a probability of hearing from me. I also wish it to be recollected that he is alluded to in colonel Wardle's letter* to mr. Glenzie, and mentioned also by him to Wright at Westborne Place. In fact, there is good grounds for suspicion, that he is *privately entangled* in all Wardle's political affairs.

The reader's remembrance of these facts will be necessary to the full developement of his late *infamous conduct to me*—and though sir Richard denies his having a knowledge of colonel Wardle, so far back as the investigation; there are many persons beside the attorney-general who are satisfied that the knight has a *very convenient* memory!

In order to satisfy the reader that I have good reason to believe my statement is not erroneous, I will proceed a little upon this part of the subject.—Mr. Wright says, in his address to the public—

“After considering a little time, the colonel said, ‘there is some little difficulty about giving this bill, mr. Wright, because the business which is coming on before the house of commons, which no doubt you have heard of, makes it a very delicate matter for me to put my own hand to paper, because it may frustrate our purpose.’ The colonel continued, ‘*I will go down to sir Richard Phillips to-morrow morning, and he and some one else will give you their bill, without my name appearing, and you may depend on hearing from me in the afternoon, or next day morning without fail.*”

At that time sir R. Phillips was not known to mr. Wright in any way whatever, and it is therefore not probable, that the name of a stranger should all *at once* come into the head of my upholsterer, who has since *assured me*, that he scarcely knew there was

* See p. 48.

such an amiable and patriotic creature in existence, as the bookseller of Bridge-street.

When sir Richard read mr. Wright's address, he thought it political to send the following letter to the *Morning Post*, for reasons I shall presently assign.

To the editor of the Morning Post.

" SIR,

" I feel it due to myself to notice the *unaccountable* introduction of my name into a report published in your paper of yesterday, by mr. Francis Wright, relative to his alledged conversations with mr. Wardle. Never having *seen mr. Wardle at the period alluded to*, nor held any *communication* with that gentleman, it must be evident that I could be *no party* with him in the *negociation described by mr. Wright*. Under the existing circumstances, however, I feel it proper to declare, that I had not the SLIGHTEST knowledge of any transaction between mr. Wardle and mr. Wright, till I read in the newspapers the report of the late trial.

" As I am induced to make this statement solely from *respect to public opinion*, I am exceedingly anxious not to be considered as *insinuating any thing in spirit, or in terms*, to the PREJUDICE of EITHER PARTY, with reference to the questions in dispute.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. PHILLIPS."

Bridge-street, July 25.

Before I reflect on the sentiments of this letter, I must be allowed to bring a few *facts* under the *eye* of my reader, which will shew that I have not *honored* the knight with a *niche* in this work *undeservedly*.

The reader is requested to keep in mind that M'Cullum came from sir Richard Phillips to me in the month of November, 1808, consequently it will be difficult to *make any one* believe, that sir Richard would *unnecessarily expose* my place of seclusion without *knowing something* of the *errand* upon which he was sending M'Cullum; unless indeed the reader should be disposed to think, he had no feeling for the safety of an unprotected woman, who was concealing herself, as he knew, from *the fangs of the law, with three children to protect!*

I am not disposed to attach much credit to the tender feelings of the knight, but in this case I verily believe he did not wish me arrested, and that he knew M'Cullum's *motive* for endeavoring to find me out. Though this may be considered an unsupported opinion, I doubt not when I couple *circumstances* and *facts* together, the reader will not close this work a sceptic upon the subject.

When colonel Wardle mentioned the name of sir R. Phillips to mr. Wright, at Westborne place, and also in his letter to Glennie, in the latter part of December, I then had not applied to sir Richard or any other person, with respect to the publishing a book, not having thought of *becoming an author* till the latter end of February, as I have before assured the public.

This important fact will therefore shew, that colonel Wardle must have had something more than a mere *knowledge* of sir Richard at this *early period* of our acquaintance, otherwise he never could have *talked* in that familiar way of *negotiating money matters with a perfect stranger!* In support of this position, let us see what he says in his evidence in the court of king's bench, on my trial for conspiracy.

On the attorney-general asking, or rather leading the colonel to the £500 which Wright pressed him for, he gives the following evidence:—

Colonel Wardle*—" Either on that day or the day following (for I had one or two applications pressed upon me,) I said, she could raise the money herself by application to a bookseller, who I dared say, would advance to her, on the book that she was about to publish.

Q. " Then, you did not comply with the request so made ?

A. " I did not.

Q. " Had you a subsequent application of the same kind, made by mrs. Clarke to you ?

A. " She pressed me very frequently on the same point.

Q. " In consequence of these frequent applications, what was done ?

A. " I at last spoke to mr. Glennie, and *asked* him if he could assist her, I was aware HE KNEW sir Richard Phillips, and whether he could procure a loan of £500 for mrs. Clarke, upon her work."

Here the reader is able to see puss half out of the bag, by colonel Wardle's *confession of mr. Glennie being acquainted with sir Richard Phillips* ; and though I may get *scratched* in dragging *old Tom* quite before the public, I am determined to shew all his *black spots*, that he may be known by every one. If he should *squeak* before I get to the *end of the tale*, the reader will see the necessity of my *pinching* him very *tightly*, lest an animal of the *tiger* species should slip *between* my fingers, and thus the future peace and happiness of many, again come within the reach of *his deadly talons* !

Having positively denied my *having any book* to sell at this time, I shall now proceed to convince the reader, that, if (*as the colonel says*) I had wanted mo-

* See p. 27, of Tipper's edition of my trial for Conspiracy.

ney on my book, I could have raised immediately, FIFTEEN HUNDRED OF TWO THOUSAND POUNDS ! Mr. Gillet, the printer, who, though not *exactly* in my *interest* now, from not printing and publishing this work with him, *will not*, I think, *venture to deny*, but that he would have advanced me *the above sum* on the book which he afterwards had of me to print ; and therefore, if my book had been *in existence* at the period to which colonel Wardle *alludes*, I might have got any money I wanted, on my own account.

Had my book then been *ready* to raise money upon, it was not likely *I should have pledged it* for the very persons *who had undertaken to pay for my furniture*, and for which they were then *distressed* to raise this *five hundred pounds* to satisfy Wright, as part of his bill. Where would have been *their friendship* to me, if after their *promises and agreement* to *furnish my house*, I had gone to a bookseller and raised *money to pay THEIR DEBTS* ? But the fact is, the virtuous patriot thought the book would do as well as any thing else to make a *story about*, and so he, *fortunately* for me, caught at a *rotten bough* to assist him over the *Rubicon*, in which he has emerged with such vices upon his head, that all the waters of the deep can never wash away ! In order to convince the reader that my *book* had nothing to do with the £500 they wanted to raise through the bookseller, and which sum they afterwards got of a money-lender in Poland-street, who is much in the *pecuniary secrets* of colonel Wardle :—I will go a little into the history of that work.

About the middle or near the latter end of February, 1809, major Dodd, colonel Wardle, and mr. Giennie suggested to me the *policy of doing every possible injury I could* to several of the *first personages in the state*. Accordingly major Dodd *began the work*, in which I soon made great progress, through the zealous assistance of this party.

The reader will not, I am sure, feel surprised to

hear that sir Richard was recommended as being, what Wardle and Glennie called a *dashing bookseller*, accordingly I repaired to Bridge-street, to consult with the knight, who expressed a great desire to purchase of me the copy-right of the work—a fact, which he has since had the imprudence to deny in his AFFIDAVIT, which will presently engross my attention.—Finding that he could not get my book into his *own entire possession*, he declined becoming the mere vender, but said, “There is a mr. Gillet, who is about to become a publisher, in consequence of his having felt himself ill-treated by a bookseller, I believe of the name of Mawman, in the Poultry, that will jump to begin business with your book, and I can assure you, madam, he is an honest man, and will do you justice.”—At this time, I believe, mr. Gillet came in by accident, to whom I immediately promised the printing and publishing of the work. Mr. Gillet had not long been in possession of part of the manuscript, before he received orders for several thousand copies of the work, and I think he will not venture to deny what he has repeatedly told to others; namely, that the first edition, which contained ten or twelve thousand books, would not have supplied the public demand beyond a week. I have thought myself justified in giving these facts to shew, that if I had wanted £500 of mr. Gillet, I could have got that, or a larger sum.

Having come a little closer to the facts of the case, the reader must now be satisfied that I could not want money of sir Richard, who had nothing further to do with my book, beyond that of being officious, and filling the papers with his love of notoriety!

As it was not likely I should attempt to raise money for persons who had affected to have the command of thousands to reward me for my services, colonel Wardle's declaration about the bookseller's supposed disposition and ability of affording me pecuniary assist-

ance, must now go for *very little* with those who will take the trouble to *reflect* upon the subject.

The reader is now in possession of a fact of Glen-
nie's acquaintance with sir Richard, which goes a
great way to corroborate my declaration, that *col.*
Wardie and the dashing bookseller, privately understood
each other before, and during the investigation !

Before my application was made to sir Richard,
with respect to the suppression of my memoirs, he
introduced to me a mr. Sullivan, of Maidstone, in
Kent, who, I have understood, is a sort of hawker of
books for him, and who, I since have been told, was
suborned as a witness against me.

By the perusal of his first letter to me, it may be
seen that sir Richard was anxious to have the book
out, and quite interested in the *Wardle cause*—I wish
the reader to *keep this circumstance in memory !*

“ MADAM,

“ It appears to me that it will be a fair
price, for mr. Sullivan to pay you four shillings and
threepence per copy, for one thousand copies of the
portrait and a *fac-simile*, with liberty to print as ma-
ny books in Dublin.

“ The irish will not pay as high a price as the eng-
lish, except for fifty or one hundred copies, and I
conceive you will by this arrangement with Sullivan,
net more than by *any other* means. If you sell two
thousand in this manner, the irish sale will put four
hundred guineas into your pocket.

“ I regret, on your account, to find that Gillet is
not making a progress. The tide is now at the
FLOOD, and taken at this moment, will lead to FOR-
TUNE. At all times, delays are dangerous, and to
enhance my string of proverbs, you should *strike*
while the iron is hot. Ascribe this, prompting to the
ZEAL, with which I am your friend,

“ R. PHILLIPS.”

“ Bridge-street,
March 24, 1809.”

It is absolutely necessary for me to go a little farther with respect to the memoirs which Mr. Gillet was printing, in order to explain my *slight* acquaintance with Sir Richard, and the *political* use he endeavored to make of me!

Earl Moira, who has long been distinguished for all the great qualities, that can dignify the head and heart of man, felt anxious that those letters should not meet the public eye which were written in confidence, and perhaps at moments when the mind is not armed with prudence and philosophy.—His lordship therefore expressed a wish to be able to restore them to the hands of the writer—and, if possible, to heal the wound which the *Wardle party* were endeavoring to keep open between me and my late royal friend. Accordingly, a gentleman some time known to Earl Moira, undertook to find out the best channel by which he could bring about the object of his lordship's friendly disposition; and believing, that Sir R. Phillips (from the private report of the moment) had purchased my book, and for *political reasons*, got Mr. Gillet to become the publisher of it—he waited on the knight, and cautiously led him to the subject of *myself* and the *memoirs*.

Sir Richard felt pleased at the introduction of a topic, which afforded an opportunity to talk of himself; he therefore joyfully entered upon a history of me and my book, and though he did not say it was his property, he *insinuated* that he had an *influence over me, and the management of the publication*. His visitor was therefore induced to believe, that he had come to the *proper person*, with whom he might fairly go a *little further* into the subject, and he accordingly asked the knight, whether there was any probability of suppressing the work, if he carried into *effect* all the duke's promises, besides advancing some ready money for my immediate exigencies. Sir Richard, after *pausing* a few minutes, said, he did not doubt but I should be satisfied with my *annuity of four*

hundred a year, and about *two or three thousand pounds* to liquidate a variety of demands, that might, under such circumstances, be made on me.

It may here be necessary to shew, from the subsequent conduct of the knight, that in consequence of this application, *he instantly became alive to a new interest*. He calculated upon the probability of my *withdrawing* my publication, which, if done through *his influence and exertions* he might accomplish the possession of an *additional honor*, or some advantage, which colonel Wardle *could not bestow* on him, and in a few hours after his letter to me, he became impressed with very *loyal sentiments*, as will be presently seen by his other *affectionate* epistles to the woman, whom he has since endeavored to *swear into a pil-lory* !!!

Having shewn how soon this patriotic bookseller could *turn his coat*, I shall proceed with my narrative :—

After a conversation of some length upon my affairs, the gentleman agreed (under an *impression*, that the knight had *power over* my work, as he had professed) to give to me the above sum and secure the annuity, as had been before promised, when after an appointment to meet in the evening, he left him, in order to communicate to earl Moira the result of his visit to Bridge-street.

Sir Richard, anxious to learn from whom his visitor came, *dispatched one* of his servants, as he afterwards *told me*, for that purpose, by which means he soon learnt that earl Moira had handsomely interested himself, to prevent the publication of the duke's letters. Sir Richard now thought that he should carry every thing before him, and that he should be able, by the *suavity* of his *manners*;—the *grace* and *irresistible* powers of his *address*—and his *method* of conciliating an *angry* female, from his *great knowledge* of the human character, to carry his point *with me*, and thereby become something between a *baronet* and a

chancellor of the exchequer!—He accordingly wrote to the noble earl, *professing* his influence over me, and tendering his good offices in the affair.

Not having received an immediate answer to his letter, I understood he followed it by *one* or *two* more upon the subject, which earl Moira thinking, I suppose, not a proper one for an epistolary correspondence, did not answer.

When the same gentleman called in the evening, sir Richard was gone to his brother-in-law, in st. Paul's church-yard, whither he followed him, and as the knight did not like to *act*, without the opinion of his relation, the negociator was obliged to submit, against his *inclination*, to the introduction of a *third person*. Sir Richard then took upon himself to arrange the business, with as much *seriousness* as if he had really *possessed a property* in the book, or an *influence over me*, neither of which was the case, and *objected* to the sum of money settled upon in the morning, but agreed to close at the payment (I believe) of four thousand pounds and the annuity, which, as the negociator could not make better terms, he agreed to give, when the knight made him commit the same to *paper*, in order to assure me of what he had accomplished for my welfare.

They now agreed to meet on the next forenoon, at a bookseller's in Bond-street, in order that sir Richard should introduce him to me, but as I have been informed, the knight did not *keep his appointment*, but went to earl Moira, *to get the business entirely into his own hands*!—The gentleman's patience being exhausted, he left Bond-street, and going towards st. James's-place, he met Philips coming out of earl Moira's house, boasting that he was allowed to enlarge the sum. and accordingly they immediately drove to Westborne place, when sir Richard requested his companion to allow him a few *minutes* private conversation with me.—After sir Richard had been with me about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour,

I felt anxious to see the *ostensible negociator*, and he immediately came up, and when the business was canvassed, he found that sir Richard had neither a *property* nor *any kind of influence* over the *management of the work*. Thinking at this time that Wardle and his party would do all they had promised, and stimulated by *one* or the *other* of them to publish my book, I treated the overtures now made to me with neglect, and observed in very strong terms to my *visitors* that I should derive more advantage from PUBLISHING, than they *offered* for suppressing the work, which *declaration* will account for a very *extraordinary* letter I am about to introduce to the notice of the reader, which sir Richard sent to me on the same evening, and in which, he calls his *friend* Wardle, a *traitor*!!!

Before I come to this letter, I must inform the reader that the *gross* and *indelicate* language of this *vain* man, so disgusted me, that I made up my mind to get *rid of him* as fast as I could, but before he went, he tried to convince me of his *ability for negociating*, and among a variety of his silly remarks, he said, that if he were sent to Paris as an ambassador, he would not come away without *making a peace*; — the gratification of this compliment to himself, I immediately destroyed, by observing, that I was sure he would not come away without *making a piece of work*! but as for conciliating *nations* or *parties*, his present conduct to me, proved his total want of every necessary requisite for *such an office*! If, however, the legislature should ever see the necessity of creating a new officer, and appointing a person to enforce the removal of *putrid vegetables* out of the *public markets*, in order to prevent epidemic diseases, I shall certainly recommend him as a most excellent *overseer of cabbage*!*

Sir Richard finding that no business was to be

* The knight's usual food.

done, and his-companion *surprised that he* had been deceived with respect to his *professed influence* at Westborne place, they left me, and as the knight went down stairs first, his friend *asked permission* to see me in the evening, which, as I gave my assent to, he came alone, when he *apologized for the language of sir Richard*, and commenced a negotiation, with which *sir Richard had nothing further to do*, and which he in the course of ten days completed to the satisfaction I believe of all parties, and then turned the agreement over to the professional gentlemen, appointed to carry it into legal effect.

In order that nothing should intervene and embarrass the negotiation, we agreed, that if sir Richard forced himself *upon me the next day*, or at *any time*, all that might be *said* should go for nothing.—so determined was I not to commit my affairs with a *person whose vanity* induced him to publish every thing that had been entrusted to him, either in his *counting-house* or the public prints!

I think the following letter will place *his character* beyond doubt or suspicion.—No one, after reading it, will say “why I do not know; but I hardly think sir Richard is so bad—I believe he is a *weak* man, but surely he is not quite so *dirty* as Mrs. Clarke says!”

Here the reader will see that he calls the very man a *traitor*, whose principles he admired, and with whom he was secretly acting, *but forsook under the hopes* of becoming at least a BARONET, he then *abuses* his friend, and tries to carry a point with me, to *further his own private views!*

“DEAR MADAM,

“You are misled and infatuated! Let the *friend* you *speak* of, do for you that which I *proposed*, and *then* he will have a *title* to your confidence. I DARE him to do it, and if he will, I will give him credit;

he is otherwise a TRAITOR to your WELFARE and INTEREST. It is ROMANTIC and QUIXOTIC in the EXTREME to TALK of the PUBLIC! I will not *accept* or *make* use of your *negative*, till I have seen you in the morning, I can make no further communication to the *liberal* and *noble persons* who have honored me with their confidence.

“ Grace and repentance, till I see you in the morning, and believe me till then, sincerely your friend,

“ R. PHILLIPS.”

“ *Bridge-street, March 30, 1809.*”

Sir Richard says in this letter, that it is ROMANTIC and QUIXOTIC in the extreme to *talk of the public*!—Here we see a little into the *private* and *real sentiments* of a *modern patriot*, who affects to feel for the public misfortunes, but in his heart is a complete CORIOLANUS, without either his dignity, courage, or talents:—What! despise that very public, by *whom* he has been raised from a little english school-master at Leicester, to the shrievalty of the first city in the world!—What, treat with contempt that PUBLIC, to which he has been so often *appealing for its admiration* and good opinion, and for *whom* he *wrote a book*, to induce the people of England to believe, that he was a *man of humanity*, and *felt keenly* for those sufferings, he had stood forward to redress!

Am I not dreaming when I say all this of the *professed* friend to the unfortunate debtor.—It surely cannot be the same sir Richard of whom I am speaking—and if DANGEROUS HYPOCRISY—were not the *common passion* that animates a *patriot's* bosom, I would not believe my own eyes—but, alas! *his letter* is my *evidence*, and such evidence, that all the sophistry of Bridge-street cannot destroy!

The other part of his letter, where he speaks of his communication to the *liberal* and *noble persons* who

have honored him *with their confidence*, has since made me laugh exceedingly, when I understood how little he *had to do* with earl Moira upon the business, and that *no other noble person* ever saw him upon the subject; and prettily did he requite earl Moira's confidence, by telling every person who called at his shop, *all he knew* of his embassy to me, in order to show that he was *a man of great consequence* at the West end of the town!—It may be necessary to observe, that neither the gentleman who came with sir Richard nor myself, thought it *prudent* to get rid of him abruptly, as he might make an *ill-natured exposure* of the affair, which could not be kept too private; therefore it was settled that he should see sir Richard according to appointment, and come with him as before. Accordingly on the following day, he and the knight came again, and after much insipid remark, sir R. expressed his surprise, that I would not *accept his terms*; he then made some *gross reflections upon me and my children*, which so affected my feelings that I had no longer any patience to bear his *nonsense*, but sent him away with scarcely the semblance of *civil contempt*.

Finding that he stood no chance of *accomplishing his object* of his visit to me, he made up his mind to go with his companion to earl Moira, and *resign the business* of his embassy, into which he had forced himself for his own private views. This circumstance is confirmed by the last paragraph of his third letter, which I am about to present to the notice of my reader.

Earl Moira not being at home, sir Richard wrote a letter to him, in which he gave up his *part of the negociation*, with some compliments to his companion; but as they were coming out of the house they met the earl at the door, in the act of bestowing his charity on the distresses of the poor. They then returned with him to his library, and sir Richard took *his final leave of the business*. Though sir Richard has

related this affair *differently, aye, and sworn to it*, I am sure the reader *will credit this account*, when all the circumstances are within the *knowledge of a nobleman*, who can confirm *my statement* !

Now I beg to introduce to the reader's presence, not the *stern moralist* and *patriot* of Bridge-street, but *Falstaff in love* !!! whose affection was heightened in proportion to *my scorn*.

“ DEAR MADAM,

“ A day has *passed* without my seeing you !! This is *something novel*, after *three* days occupied so entirely in your society and service !

“ I hope all is for the best, and that you are better informed than I am.—I shall, *however never reproach myself for the advice* I have given. The only subject that would vex me, would be any idea on your part, *that I was not promoting that which I sincerely believe to be your interest*, as well as that of the *other parties*.

“ Mr. Gillet will do justice to *my sentiments respecting you* in the whole affair, and will explain some matters which have appeared mysterious.

“ I have *washed my hands* of the business, but still continue to interest myself in your welfare, and that of *your children* !”

“ I am very truly, &c. &c.

“ R. P.”

“ Bridge-street, April 5, 1809.”

Who would suppose that after sir Richard had taken leave of me in such *affectionate* terms, he would in a few months have gone *about* and endeavored to *suborn* various persons to *swear* me into a *gaol* and perhaps a *pillory* ?—He, who closes his *loving* epistle with these words—“ but shall continue to interest myself in your welfare, and that of your children !” A swain so *captivating* as sir Richard, certainly might

be angry *at my neglect*, but neglect cannot warrant the line of conduct which has since marked every subsequent action of this disappointed *Adonis*.—That he who is considered a fond husband, and a fond father should *wantonly* try to separate and deprive an unprotected mother of the means of supporting her infant offspring, *appears monstrous*—but not more *monstrous* than *true*!—He too, who carries his *domestic affection* to such a *romantic length*, that I can scarcely take up a magazine, but I see *little children made gods, and gods made little children*!!—in fact, his whole existence is nothing but a *puff*; and whether his inflation be from *vegetables* or *vanity*, I will not venture to determine, but his *ascension* in life, like a balloon, is owing to the *lightness* of its *air*, and not its *puity*!

After this *kind, loving, and friendly* letter, I now beg leave to show sir Richard Phillips again in his *democratic* garment, which he had hung up to *mildew* upon his *peg*, M'Cullum, while he *fancied* a ray of *royalty* was playing about his head, like an April sun, that allures a man from his home, to send him back *co.d, wet, and disappointed*!

After the trial of Wright's action, in July last, sir Richard publicly proclaimed his acquaintance with his old *private* friend, colonel Wardle, who, for *about a week*, be called a *traitor*; and then became as *officious* to suborn evidence, and collect information useful to his friend's cause, as he had been before to serve the other side of the question! Accordingly, sir Richard accompanied the colonel to Hampstead, for the express purpose of seeing Mrs. Andrews, the person mentioned in the beginning of this work; and as those persons are generally very civil who are in want of a favor, they did this respectable woman the honor to ask her into the carriage, in order *to see* what could be made of any thing she might observe, in answer to their questions respecting the furnishing of my house at Westborne place. Mrs. A. very ho-

neestly and very candidly told them, she knew nothing of the matter; and as she in *no way served* the interest of the colonel, he did not include her *among his ninety four witnesses* !

Sir Richard, not satisfied with the result of this interview, frequently waited on Mrs. Andrews, to induce her to get me up to Hampstead, that he might take me by surprize for some political purpose ! and carried his politeness so far as to *invite her* to his house in London, a circumstance, *that so great a man* as the SHERIFF of London, would not have condescended to have done to a person in her station in life, if he had not then had the *colonel's cause* sincerely at heart—I mean the same colonel Wardle, whom he called a TRAITOR !

Sir Richard, *zealous*, though *awkward* in every thing he undertakes, did not like to relax his services for his dear colonel, and accordingly set every engine to work, for my destruction. Amidst a variety of efforts to keep a *litt e breath* in the almost *defunct* god of the people, he had the impudence to write to lord Folkstone, entreating him to *turn his mind* to the period when my house was furnished, and see whether he could recollect any of the *private conversations*, which had for *their object* the *payment* of my furniture, *and by whom ?* as his lordship's attention to this subject might be of infinite service to the colonel's cause. On the receipt of this letter, lord Folkstone brought it to me, and as the reader may suspect from the preceding pages, only *laughed* at the knight as a *busy, meddling knave* !

Hearing that sir Richard was moving heaven and earth to crush me, I expressed a wish to Mr. Ogilvie, late army agent of Argyle-street, that he would wait on him, and endeavor to learn, if possible, his reason for becoming all at once an enemy to the person, whom he a short time before *affected* to *admire* and *respect* !—Agreeably to my desire, Mr. O. paid the knight a visit, when he introduced my name as if by

accident, and then observed, that he had heard of his having become a *violent opponent to me* ; sir Richard immediately called in two or three persons who happened to be in the shop, and entered into a long narrative of the commencement and termination of his acquaintance with me, and then observed — “ *it was his wish, to let colonel Wardle slip out of the disgrace as quiet as possible, and afterwards to compromise with me ! ! !* After a long and general conversation, mr. Ogilvie left sir Richard, who begged he would look in upon him again in a few days, as he would then speak with him further upon the subject. Mr. O. having occasion to go into the city, and prompted by curiosity to hear how matters were going on in the *enemy's camp*, made use of sir Richard's polite invitation, who was no doubt, also curious to pick out of his visitor, the little idle stories of the day. At this time the knight was found less *reserved* and *circumspect* in his remarks, and after mr. O. was seated, asked him to what *political party* he was most attached—when he informed sir Richard, that though not a violent politician, he mostly admired mr. Fox and his party. This reply appeared to electrify the knight, who instantly *lost sight* of all caution, and entered as *freely* into various subjects as if they had been on terms of intimacy for twenty years. Before sir Richard brought about my business, he consulted mr. Ogilvie upon a scheme he had in contemplation, of establishing an office for *receiving* and *paying* the balance due to the *representatives of deceased soldiers* ' and observed, that he thought a good deal might be done by *agency* and *commission*, in such a concern. Mr. Ogilvie informed sir Richard, that there was already something of a similar nature in the war-office, in which a person collected and paid claimants ! After a great variety of miscellaneous remark, sir Richard commenced a violent *philippic* against the duke of York and *the government*, for having published an *official* army list, which had destroyed his *established work*, and said, he be-

lieved they had done it out of spite to his *political opinions*. Mr. Ogilvie observed, that as far as he was capable of speaking upon the subject, he thought sir Richard had *greatly deceived himself*. That he had always understood that the reason government had for *establishing an official army list*, arose from *all former publications* of that sort having been so *very incorrect*; and it was the *continued complaints* of the army that had given birth to the *measure* of which he so much complained!

This explanation, however, did not appear satisfactory to sir Richard, who continued to observe, that he thought otherwise, and if the MINISTERS *would give him back the publication of that work* (pray reader mark this) HE WOULD ALWAYS BE THEIR FRIEND;—and though *he should regret to come forward against* Mrs. Clarke, upon a point which colonel Wardle had *pounced upon* in one of their conversations with respect to her furniture, he must do so, as he had committed himself with the colonel;—however, said sir Richard to Mr. Ogilvie, “IF MINISTERS WILL GIVE ME BACK THE ARMY LIST, MY EVIDENCE MAY PERHAPS BE TURNED ANY WAY.”—I leave sir Richard to reflect upon this *fact*, which a RESPECTABLE MAN is ready to SUPPORT by OATH!

I shall now proceed to consider sir Richard's affidavit, which, contrary to custom, (but not the custom of the knight) was published *in all the daily papers*.—It is as complete a piece of perjury as ever insulted a British court:

Affidavit of sir R. Phillips.

“Sir Richard Phillips, of Bridge-street, Blackfriars, in the city of London, knight, maketh oath and saith, that on or about the 8th day of MARCH last, this deponent was applied to by Mrs. MARY ANNE CLARKE, of Westborne place, Chelsea, in the county of MIDDLESEX, to publish her memoirs, and certain

letters written to her by his royal highness the duke of York, which publication THIS DEPONENT DECLINED TO ENGAGE IN. And this deponent further saith, that in the latter end of the same month of March, this deponent, under the *supposition* that *he was the PROPRIETOR* of the said book, was APPLIED TO BY THE EARL OF MOIRA, AND AT HIS REQUEST COMMENCED A NEGOCIATION WITH MRS. CLARKE FOR THE SUPPRESSION of the said book about to be published by her as aforesaid. And this deponent further saith, that in the COURSE OF THE TREATY for the publication of the said book, the said MARY ANNE CLARKE ASSIGNED as a REASON to this deponent for MAKING THE MOST of the said PUBLICATION, that she had TWO THOUSAND POUNDS to pay to FRANCIS WRIGHT, the PLAINTIFF above named, for the furniture sent in by him to her house in Westborne place aforesaid. And when this deponent afterwards NEGOCIATED with the said MARY ANNE CLARKE for the SUPPRESSION of the said book, the said MARY ANNE CLARKE stated, that a sum of money must be given her for the PAYMENT of her DEBTS; amongst the debts enumerated by her, she, the said MARY ANNE CLARKE, mentioned the *debt so due from her to the said plaintiff as aforesaid.*"

First, he insinuates that he declined to publish my book, and so he did, but *only because* I would not *sell it to him*; and though he declined becoming the mere vender, *he made himself* as busy about it (as may be seen by his first letter) as if it belonged to him.

Secondly, he swears that *Earl Moira applied to him, and at his request he commenced a negociation* for the suppression of my book:--which the reader will see must be a gross perjury, as he *forced himself* upon that nobleman under *false pretences of influence over me*! and when he comes to that part which says *I wanted two thousand pounds to pay* Mr. Francis Wright for my furniture, sir Richard only *convinces* me that he is E-

QUAL TO ANY THING ! and after this declaration, I should not be at all surprised to hear him swear that he was the **GREAT MOGUL !**

It is very odd that Earl Moira *is not acquainted with the latter part* of this affidavit, who knew *every thing* that was said in *my house during the negociation*. — It is very strange that sir Richard should only hear me make *such a declaration*, though I did not see *him alone* at Westborne place, *except for ten minutes, or a quarter of an hour !*

It was very fortunate for sir Richard that Earl Moira who, I believe, heard his evidence *with astonishment*, was not examined on my trial, or the city of London would have been soon ashamed of **ONE** of its *annual honors !*

When sir Richard gave his personal evidence in the court of King's bench, he again perjured himself in these words. In answer to the counsel's question he says, "In the course of the conversation, *he mentioned particularly her obligation to pay Wright for furniture, amounting to 2000*l.* and was therefore anxious to sell her memoirs at the highest price. Some of these conversations were at his own house, some of them at Westborne-place.*"

It is true that I endeavored to get as much as I could for my memoirs, but it *is not true* that sir Richard *conversed with me*, upon the sale of the work, *at any other place than that of my own dwelling*, as his own *letters* and the preceding *remarks* will show; consequently his *declaration in the court*, that "*some of these conversations were at his own house,*" will prove **false !**

It will be unnecessary to prove the fallacy of this evidence by observing that I never offered to *sell my memoirs* ; and, after an application was made to me to suppress them, I never saw sir Richard, in *any other house but my own*.

If the reader will turn his mind over these facts, I am sure he will be satisfied that the knight has not

sat in the sheriff's box at the Old Bailey FOR NOTHING! and instead of *wearing a sword by his side* he ought to have worn a *straw* in his shoe!

As a recent trial in the court of common pleas is of much service to my opinion of sir Richard Phillips I have given it a place in this work, as published in an evening paper, "the Globe."

"LAW INTELLIGENCE.

"COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, *Guildhall, May 25*

"MARTIN AND CO. v. SIR RICHARD PHILLIPS.

"This was an action brought by the holders against the defendant, as acceptor of several bills of exchange to the amount of 700*l*.

"The plaintiffs are eminent bankers, the defendant is mr. Phillips, bookseller, late of st. Paul's church-yard, but now of Bridge-street. It appeared on the statement of the case, and from the evidence, that the bills of exchange in question were drawn by mr. Sullivan, paper-maker and stationer, carrying on business in Cork, but resident, at their date, in London; and that the same were accepted by the defendant, and afterwards indorsed by mr. Atkins, of Finsbury-square. The bills were dishonored by sir R. Phillips, the acceptor; and Sullivan, the drawer, became bankrupt. The plaintiffs of course, pressed the defendant for payment; but he resisted, on the ground that the bills were drawn upon irish, not english stamps, and consequently were illegal securities.—This fact, evident on the face of the bills, was admitted by the plaintiff; but it was sworn by mr. Thompson, a clerk of sir Richard Phillips, that the knight was present when the bills were drawn in London.

"The Lord Chief Justice admitted that the law was with the defendant, while he reprobated the *defence as dishonest and dishonorable*. The counsel for

the plaintiffs acquiesced in the doctrine laid down by his lordship, and *consoled themselves* for their *defeat*, as the *action had exposed* the defendant, and *SHOWN HIM IN HIS TRUE COLORS*.—Verdict for the defendant.”

The reader will be pleased to recollect, that the dates of sir Richard's letters are long after Illingworth's bill, January 2, 1809, which follows the letter from colonel Wardle to mr. Glennie in December; I therefore hope I have shown *very clearly* that my book could *have nothing* to do with the £500 which the colonel was to raise for me through sir Richard, as he promised to mr. Wright at Westborne place, and *which fact* sir Richard *afterwards denies* in his letter to the editor of the Morning Post.

That link of circumstances which I have given will, I trust, throw a *new light* upon the characters and views of those men who may be *patriots with a deceived and infatuated party*, but are only *impostors* when the veil is *rent* from off their guilty heads!

Some short time previous to any application being made to sir Richard with respect to the suppression of my memoirs, he introduced to me mr. Waithman, the patriotic linen draper, who expressed a wish that I would use my *influence* with sir Francis Burdett and lord Folkstone to dine with a *small party* of the same principles in the city. Accordingly I obtained their consent, and communicated the agreeable intelligence to him in a note which colonel Wardle delivered personally to mr. Waithman, with whom he then consulted upon the subject of the dinner; when it was thought that too much publicity could not be given to their intended festive day. Therefore a *grand* city feast was agreed upon, and brought about through my exertions and influence, at which the colonel employed his eloquence in eulogising the *chastity* of his *mind* and the *purity* of his *principles*!

This work will be very serviceable to many of sir Richard's authors, who now will be called into im-

mediate requisition to *abuse* me in his "Monthly Magazine," and in every other publication over which so great a patron of literature *must have considerable influence*; but as all that party malice *could suggest* has been said already to my prejudice, and the respectable part of the public are still my friends, I shall only laugh at the *crackers* and *squibs* that may be thrown at me from Bridge-street.

Sacred history somewhere says that "the L---d *chastiseth* those whom he loveth;" but though I am not *interested* by the same motive or *affection* for sir Richard Phillips, I have, notwithstanding, bestowed a little wholesome correction on him, which I hope will *work* some good in the habits of his mind before he goes on an embassy to Paris; receives the honor of *Baronet*, which he told me, and others he expected; or becomes president of a republican *directory*, if the people of England should be so insane as to act upon the doctrines of men who ought to *reform themselves* before they rise, *phœnix like*, out of the ashes of ROYALTY!

I thought I had taken my leave of Mr. Illingworth, but the following note will confirm my statement in page 53 of this volume, where I inform the reader that this wine merchant was to send me in a few dozen of wine to *disguise* the money transaction between Wright and Wardle. I am now happy that I am enabled to support that position by the receipt of this document.

" MRS. CLARKE, PUTNEY.

" Mr. Illingworth's compliments to Mrs. Clarke, has inclosed her bill for wine, the amount of which he will be much obliged to her for.

" *Pall Mall, May 4.*

85.]

Mrs. Clarke To R. S. Illingworth.

1809.	Feb. 23.	3 doz. Port wine - -	56s	8	8	0
		3 doz. Madeira - -	5	gs.	15	15 0
		Bottles - - - - -		1	1	0
"	April 7.	1 doz. Port wine - - - -		2	16	0
						<hr/>
						28 0 0

I hope mr. Illingworth will *proceed against* me immediately for the amount of his bill, and then I will bring major Dodd. colonel Wardle, and mr. Glennie again into court, where I may have the pleasure of seeing *them expose themselves*, and practise *perjury* ! This is all the notice I mean to take of the wine, which colonel Wardle and his party consumed in drinking *destruction* to the duke of York and the *****

In a *note* * to the first part of this work, I promised the reader some account of his partnership with mr. Scott, the army clothier, of Cannon Row, Westminster; I therefore now take the liberty of fulfilling that promise. The manufactory in which Wardle has a concern is at *Tre Madock* in Caernarvonshire, which is under the management of a person by the name of Barnet, and where the wool is prepared, and *great coats manufactured for the army*.

My only motive for going into this subject is to show that the colonel employed his *patriotic speech*, in which he proposed to save the nation eleven millions a year, for the purpose of becoming *army clothier to government*; and, by reference to his first speech, it may be seen that he *recommends* his own articles, by the character he gives mr. Scott, his PARTNER !!!

" ARMY CLOTHING.

" Colonel Wardle rose to call the attention of the house to the prodigal expenditure of the public mo-

* See page 18, vol. 1.

ney in the present system of clothing the army with great coats. The war office, instead of acting on the principle of open contract, as recommended and ordered by the treasury, persisted in private contracts; and the consequence was, that, though a great reduction had taken place in the materials of great coats, no reduction had taken place in the price.

“In the year 1803, the secretary at war (mr. Yorke) consented to pay at the rate of 16s 6d for each great coat, but stipulated that a reduction should take place if the price of kersey should fall. Kersey was then at 4s 6d a yard, and since continued to fall till it came down to 3s 6d; but no reduction was made in the contracts till the present year, nor would any have then been made, if it had not been for the continued offers forced on the war office to furnish great coats at a less price than was actually paid. He made a variety of calculations on the prices at different periods, from which he assured there was a loss to the public of £23,000; he adverted particularly to a tender made by messrs. Scott, eminent army clothiers, to furnish these coats in 1806 at 14s 9d, which would afford a saving of £21,000 on every delivery. Not getting any answer, messrs. Scott looked for a share in the contract as made by the war office; they obtained it, and paid at the rate of 16s 6d. This was an answer to any objection that could be made on the ground of supposed inferiority in Messrs. Scott’s clothing.”*

I need not trespass on the patience of the reader by pursuing this speculator in wool with such reflections as must suggest themselves to any one, from his having agitated the *public mind* and *trifled* with the house of commons *merely* to become a *Government TAYLOR*!!!

* See “The Patriot’s Looking-Glass,” which gives the whole of his speech on saving the nation eleven millions a year! with mr. Huskisson’s reply to it.

If the reader will look over a mr. Farquharson's pamphlet, he may be soon satisfied that the colonel has been *dabbling* in other speculations. With him, it appears, he had a concern in a *gin distillery* in the Island of Jersey, and had great difficulty of melting the colonel's thousand pound bond into cash, though the colonel was intimate with Jew King, of whom, as I before observed, I should again speak.

When Jew King felt himself in any way neglected, he used to write some of the most extraordinary letters that one man could possibly send to another? and, in one of his irritable moments, he wrote a letter to the following effect, which is now in the possession of mr. Corfield.

"SIR,

"Remember it was I who first brought you into notice; it was I, who *obliged* you, by setting the people against the duke of York; it was I who gave you a consequence in the city through my paper; it was I that *raised* you to your present glory; and remember, if you *are ungrateful*, much is within my power towards your ruin, &c.

"J. KING."

Of what consequence must that man be to the *happiness* and *liberty* of a country whose *character* depends on the *good word* of Mr. Jew King! is a problem not difficult of solution!

Within these few years much uneasiness and jealousy existed among those gentlemen of the duke of Kent's establishment with respect to pamphlets that contained circumstances which no one could have known but those immediately about his royal person, and in his confidence; till it was *discovered* that major Dodd was the *intimate friend* and *companion* of mr. Thos. Hague, who is the literary *organ* of this party!!!

In another part of this work I introduced Dr.

Metcalf to the notice of the reader, with the promise of again making him the subject of remark. The doctor is a very clever and a very worthy man; but, unfortunately, in indigent circumstances. His abilities and uniform correct conduct gave him a place at my table for several years, *by which means he mingled with the Wardle parties* during the whole of our acquaintance. In the course of a short time the doctor became *entangled* in all their secrets, and heard almost all major Dodd and the colonel's conversation with respect to the duke of Kent's being the *parent* of the *measure* which these agents were to carry into execution.

As every thing depended upon the doctor's honor as to the *secrecy* of their proceedings, which they made him promise most solemnly to *keep inviolable*, they, in return for his *friendship* and *fidelity*, faithfully promised to give to him a *lucrative* situation in the government when the duke of Kent became commander in chief of the army!

As soon, however, as the investigation was over, and I would not *lend myself to other measures*, they *cut* the poor doctor, and *rewarded* him as they did me; which accounts for the following letter he sent to major Dodd, and which no man *could* or would have written but under the circumstances related.

“ April 15th, 1809.”

“ My dear Sir,

“ I believe you are perfectly aware that the whole of the circumstances which related to the duke of Kent, and his wishes, as to the result of the late inquiry, are known to me; and I believe I am perfectly correct in stating that the above communication was made to me by Mrs. Clarke, the day previous to that on which I had the honor of being introduced to you. Well knowing the consequence attaching to *secrecy* in an affair of this nature, I was true to

my trust, and never divulged an atom of the whole to any one breathing, though strongly urged from a certain quarter to explain the MOTIVES which the honorable mover had for his ANXIETY in PRESSING the inquiry.

“ I have, during the investigation, had it more than once intimated to me, that it was intended I should have a provision under government. From the silence lately observed by all parties on that subject, I am either to suppose that the intimation made to me was a matter *in nubibus*, or that mrs. Clarke’s claims are so very urgent and extensive, that a figure so small as I am, may very safely be lodged on the shelf. How far a decision like this may be deemed liberal, supposing the latter to be the case, and all circumstances considered, I shall submit to your candor: I have, however, so high an opinion of major Dodd, that I will hope better things, and I will still flatter myself that the commencing reformation shall not be marked by suffering a man of a high integrity, and abilities not contemptible, to sink, for want of being properly supported.

“ I wish not to dictate either the *quantum* of the provision, or the situation where, so that it is confined to the island; for sixty-six is a period too late in life for traversing the ocean.

“ With the highest respect, regard, and esteem, I have the honor to remain, your much obliged, sincerely devoted humble servant,

(Signed)

“ THOS. METCALF.

“ To major Dodd.”

I do not see the necessity of making any remarks upon the above, further than to observe that it *strongly* supports every part of my narrative.

A few days after my trial for conspiracy, I received the following from the same worthy gentleman,

which, as it appears to say so much to my purpose, I shall leave it without illustration.

“ Birmingham, Dec. 14, 1809.

“ MY DEAR FRIEND,

“ Great god be thanked for the triumph you have obtained over messrs. Dodd, Wardle, and Glennie. The result of the trial proves the advice I gave you to be good. Had I appeared as evidence on the trial, you now see the use they would have made of the circumstances: they would have done all they could to have made me the instrument of lugging the DUKE OF KENT INTO THE SCRAPE HEAD AND SHOULDERS. I am glad to find that his royal Highness has dismissed Dodd, and turned Glennie out of his office; and I hope when next his royal highness ENTERS INTO CONFIDENCE AGAIN, HE WILL NOT REPOSE IT IN THE BOSOM OF KNAVES OR FOOLS. WARDLE MAY NOW GIVE OVER HIS APPEALS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, FOR THEY WILL NO LONGER BE DUPED BY SUCH *soi-disant Patriots*. I will now tell you in the fulness of confidential friendship, that had I imprudently complied with your solicitations, and given THE WHOLE OF THE CONVERSATION which I more than once OVERHEARD, IT MIGHT ONE DAY OR OTHER HAVE SO FAR HURT THE CREDIT OF THE ROYAL FAMILY WITH THE PEOPLE, as to have ENDANGERED THE PEACE OF THE KINGDOM. I knew the danger, *you did not*; therefore I advised you *as I did*, and acted accordingly.

“ The mail servant has just brought me word that my wife has breathed her last. God almighty receive her; her troubles are over; would to heaven that mine were also finished!

“Remember me to the dear children, to capt. Thompson, and also to good mrs. Favery.

“I am, and ever shall be,

“Truly, faithfully, and devotedly,

“Your unalterable friend,

“J METCALF, M. D.”

Since I have been writing this volume, I have heard that major Dodd should say that the duke of Kent felt *his security* in my *not having* any of his *letters* in my possession.

The duke of Kent is not the *only one* who has deceived himself upon a *fancied security*: but as this *just but bold publication* may induce some *individuals* to court a *further exposure* of themselves, by again *placing* me before a *British jury*, I feel justified in keeping some part of my case in *reserve* for my *own safety*.

However, in confirmation of my statement in page 30, where I speak of reading the duke of Kent's letters to major Dodd, in which I am encouraged to stand up AGAINST his own brother, I will again introduce to the notice of my readers, mr. Ogilvie, who happened to be in my back drawing room one morning at the beginning of the investigation, when major Dodd came up in great haste, with one of the duke's letters in his hand; and as soon as he entered the front room he read, in a *high and exalting tone of voice*, his royal master's *sentiments*, with respect to my *future reward* for the services before related. The whole thing was *instantaneously done*; and as soon as he understood that mr. Ogilvie was in the back room, the folding doors of which being half open, he felt much embarrassed, and immediately put the letter in his pocket!

As mr. Waithman, the linen-draper, is a *very noisy* patriot, and always talking about something or other he does not very well understand, and meddling in all the affairs of his neighbors, he appears fair game for me to shoot at, particularly as he has taken such

an active part against me. If this *chattering black-bird* were to die, the council-chamber at Guildhall would be like a *rookery* deserted, where a *senseless noise had too long disturbed* the whole neighborhood, while he and his *black brethren* were breeding mischief!

Of mr. Waithman I know a *great deal*, but nothing to claim either my admiration or respect, as he is something like Phillips and the common description of *liberty boys*, who in their own dwellings are perfect tyrants; which confirms me in opinion, that *modern patriotism and tyranny are synonymous terms*.

When I was first introduced to mr. Waithman through the immaculate bookseller, he was very anxious for me to *assail* most of the high personages about the court, and he wished me very *much* to *attack his majesty from his information*; but I gave him the same answer I had given to mr. Glennie, that I felt no inclination to be a republican *blunderbuss* to fire out the party malice of any *disappointed politician*!—mr. Waithman will understand me, I am sure. This intended attack on an *aged* and good king, I assure the public, so much *disgusted* me, that I have ever since considered mr. Waithman a *very dirty character*! but he is a *patriot*, and therefore he must *be spotless* as the times go!

Waithman, like all these kind of *violent reformers*, is not very particular about one of the *necessary qualities* of an orator, as long as he can give effect to his *muslin effusions* in the common council. I will instance a circumstance where he, most likely, thought truth the least important *ornament* of his speech!

In one of his *thundering* speeches, he informed his auditory that I had told him, or some one else, that mr. Mellish *had applied* to me for a *baronetcy*, which I here beg to assure the public is no more nor less than a gross FALSEHOOD! mr. Mellish's interest must be very bad with government if he could not obtain *such a paltry acquisition* without asking me to beg a new

name for him! he who is ashamed of his own *may* have a good reason for *any addition or alteration*; which indeed is the only excuse I have for sir Richard Phillips's *attachment* to the baronetcy!

I will do Mr. Mellish the credit to believe, that neither his family nor himself have given him cause to *sink the one* under the emblazonment of the other!

When I make these reflections, I do not wish it to be understood that I mean to cast any unbecoming reflections on those numerous persons whose public services have entitled them to this honorable acknowledgement of their country's approbation. It is like a roman reward, no expense to the government, and very FLATTERING!

My information to mr. Waithman was this; that mr. Shaw, who had been very serviceable to mr. Pitt, was promised by him some little plaything of this kind, which he has since got in the title of sir James Shaw: but I think it my duty to declare, in justice to sir James, that I had nothing to do with this *light affair*, and therefore mr. Waithman evidently told this *jokehood*, with an intention of being personal, for which mr. Mellish will be justified when opportunity serves, in taking a shot at the *black game* of the city *rookery*!

Mr. Timothy Brown constitutes a small limb of this party; but as *dinners* and *money* principally distinguish this banker in the political hemisphere in which he moves, I can only view him as a useful agent in the cause on which his *gold* sheds the *greatest* lustre! Before my trial for conspiracy, mr. Brown invited mr. Gillet, my former printer, to dine with him, in company with that great legal *luminary* mr. Ellis, who, after the decision of the court upon his action against the speaker of the house of commons, will no doubt recommend the distressed relatives of the poor malefactors to indict JACK KETCH for MURDER! As soon as the wine went into circulation, mr. Ellis, assisted by mr. Brown, began to probe him upon all the *private conversations* he had with *me*

either as to the payment of my furniture, or any thing that they *thought* would help the prosecution.

Gillet very justly said he knew nothing of my *pecuniary* transactions, and therefore could not be of any service to them. Mr. Ellis then boasted of having quite *sufficient* evidence to convict the defendants, though he thought it adviseable to obtain all he could. Ellis now thought to play off a *little terror* over Gillet, by observing that he had instructions to bring an action against him for publishing the pamphlet called the "Rival Impostors," unless he gave up the author, though this person must at *that time have known* that mr. Manners was its notorious parent !

In consequence of mr. Cobbett having taken such a decided part against me lately, I think it but fair to return him thanks for his *liberality* and *independence*; two qualities in a political writer that deserve my *admiration* and *esteem*, from the difficulty of meeting with them at *any time*, and particularly at the present day.

When I was the great key-stone that held the arch upon which the *fabric* of colonel Wardle's fame ENTIRELY RESTED, mr. Cobbett said mighty pretty things with respect to me; but now the *villany* of his friend has *loosened* its *security*, and I have let him into a gulph of deserved public odium, *he*, to support his *favorite theme*, for *private reasons*, has discovered; all at once, that I am a very infamous woman, in whom there is no truth to be found !

Nature has bestowed on the human mind an amiable kind of weakness, which frequently induces an author to believe that his sentiments, though as changeable as the weathercock, are never observed; and that his reader has a *happy stupidity* of not finding out when the *vane* was in the *west*, and when it is in the *north* ! This *changeability* in mr. Cobbett, whose abilities I admire, obliges me to open the secrets of the prison-house, and show that the *intellect of even clever men* is *heavily fettered*, and *quite the slave to ac-*

cidental circumstances ; which strengthens the philosopher's *position*, that there is but *little* difference between the *enlightened* and *ignorant* man, all being alike characterised by imperfection !

During the investigation, lord Folkstone brought mr. Cobbett to Westborne-place, who was pleased to say a number of *civil things to me* [all of which were very *opposite to his late public sentiments*] ; and observed, with *much warmth of feeling*, that the only thing he was angry at, was, that I should ever have lived with such a *man* as the duke of York. As I *knew* the *cause* of this remark, I instantly *checked* the *ebullition* of his *malice*, by observing that, though I had been drawn into measures of *hostility* against my late friend, yet still he was a *gentleman* and a *prince*, who was adorned by many excellent qualities ; and therefore I begged to *assure him* that he would not raise himself in my opinion by any personal reflections on the duke of York, which I *knew* arose from his having *been once disappointed* at not dining with his royal highness at my table, after the *party was fixed*.

That the reader may enter completely into the cause of mr. Cobbett's dislike to that prince, and his motives for having become his *determined foe*, I must be allowed to relate the circumstance. Accident, I believe, suggested a political party at my house : accordingly mr. Cobbett and sir Francis Burdett received cards of invitation, and were, as they expected, to have dined in company with the duke of York. Within a few days of the dinner, the duke informed me in the most delicate manner, that he had not the least objection to dine with these gentlemen as private individuals ; yet, as their hostility was so obvious to the government, it would not be prudent for him to be present. I felt the propriety of the duke's excuse, which arose from no *personal dislike*, and consequently put the party off. A gentleman who was to have been of the party afterwards told me of *Cobbett's* anger at being disappointed, and assured me that he

would not forget the *insult* ; which time has proved he *has not*, from the *unmerciful manner* with which he has followed the object of his malice. An explanation of this fact took place before lord Folkestone, who, I think, is *too much* the man of honor to deny it now, from motives of policy, though Mr. Cobbett may *not like* to acknowledge the *truth* of this statement !

If Mr. Cobbett should feel hurt at the introduction of this anecdote, he has the gratification of knowing that an *injured female* is at the *mercy* of his pen, which has already consumed a great deal of gall upon her, whom he *could* once come to *praise* and *admire* when *she was in the service* of a certain cause !

As Mr. Croker took a great interest in my concerns when I was examined in the house of commons, it would be unkind of me to forget him—and to forget a friend, is a sin against the commandment, which I am not disposed to commit ; I will, therefore, just convince the public of the great *acquisition* which the government is in possession, in the person of this *distinguished lawyer and politician* !

Stimulated to learn something of this ludicrous irishman, who did *those dirty* kind of things to *injure me*, which no gentleman would have lent himself to ; I obtained, through a pretty good medium, the following whimsical history of my friend Alley Croker !

Perhaps the pen of the biographer cannot relate a more honorable incident of a man's life than that of his having raised himself from an humble station in life to a place of public trust and honor ; but if, ascending the rugged hill of prosperity, he *wantonly* tarnishes that character which ought to accompany the footsteps of every man who pursues the path of honor, and *descends* to those little offices of becoming, like many of his countrymen, a *watchman*, and, instead of keeping the peace, rudely attacks a person *whose sex* ought to have protected her from insult, I doubt not but the reader will think with me that I

am justified in showing who he was, as an *excuse* for my not presenting a gentleman to the notice of the reader.

My friend Alley-Croker is a native of Tolewood, in the county of Cork, and is said to be the son of an obscure person who was in some very humble station under the earl of Shannon, and employed in collecting that very *odious irish tax of the hearth money* ! I have considered it proper to be correct in this particular, lest in future times the same controversy may arise about the birth-place of this hero, which occupied the learned world respecting that of Homer ; mr. Croker being a poet as well as a *lawyer* and *statesman*.

It is supposed that he was educated at one of those charity schools immediately under the patronage of the earl, which it appears he left at a very early age, as he assisted his father in collecting the tax which is held in such abhorrence by the poor people of Ireland. With ink-horn at his buttonhole, and tax-book in his hand, his person was as alarming to the poor as a village ghost, or a hawk to a hen and chickens ! Young Croker was considered a sharp lad, for discovering the concealed furniture of those defaulters whose *miserable sticks* it was his business to seize for certain arrears in the payment of the tax.

As he advanced in life, his father, through the same patronage, obtained a more lucrative situation, which enabled him to indulge better prospects of his future life, and, after a few years necessary study, he went to the irish bar ; but finding that the law did not *shed* any *lustre* upon his professional pursuits, or he any *lustre* upon the law, he determined to have recourse to *his pen*, which he very properly employed with the best *views to his pecuniary advantage*.

After passing some time in writing upon most of the floating subjects of the day, a contested election commenced, in which lord Castlereagh became a candidate ; who finding a *useful* literary advocate in

Mr. Croker, encouraged his exertions, and afterwards became his best friend; and to whom he is now indebted for his present elevated station in life!

I believe through the influence of this nobleman, he progressively advanced from one thing to another, till he got into parliament, where he did not *distinguish* himself till the *investigation*.

My friend Alley-Croker, thinking this was a fine opportunity to bring himself into notice by *crushing a woman*, I dare say said to himself, "By Jasus, here am I!—By my soul, you shall see what I'll do with that infamous woman Mrs. Clarke!!!" accordingly he made solemn preparation for her *exposure* and *ruin*!

When he *set* at me, it must be in the recollection of every one who was in the house at the time, *that I turned him round my finger*, to the continued mirth but *pity* of the house. But when he insisted on hearing the NAME SIGNED to the *anonymous* letter, and the house observed my manner of treating his nonsense, it is impossible to describe *the ridiculous* situation in which he stood, surrounded as he then was by a *general laugh*, and which threw the house into such confusion, that it was nearly half an hour before order could be restored.

He has a *brogue* which makes him scarcely intelligible to his countrymen, and, when he speaks in the house renders his eloquence irresistibly powerful;—I do not mean, reader, over the understanding of his hearers, but over the risible faculties; or, in plainer terms, he makes every body laugh at him!!!

Among the variety of little silly acts which marked this gentleman's political career, is his *peeping from a garret* in the nearest opposite house to me in order to watch my movements, and see who came to West-borne place, during the investigation.

For all these able endeavors in the service of the state, he now enjoys the place of secretary to the Admiralty!!!

Recently this sagacious gentleman distinguished himself as teller of the house on a division, and was *so kind* to the ministers as to leave out a whole row of his own party ! † !

Though mr. Croker did all he could to annoy and injure me, I will return *good* for *evil*, and recommend his poor but industrious and deserving cousin as a very excellent BARBER !

Though several *personal* applications have been made to me to suppress this work, accompanied by *good offers*, the following is the only document I have received upon the subject. But as my *feelings* and *character* are so much *concerned* in the exposure of colonel Wardle and his party, I have uniformly rejected ALL OVERTURES !

“ *Barnard Castle, Jan. 13, 1810.*

“ DEAR MADAM,

On perusing one of the London newspapers, I saw a paragraph with your name affixed, signifying your intention to publish an appeal to the public, wherein you intended to insert several of colonel Wardle's letters. Now, madam, in consideration of the great respect I bear towards the colonel (for the great and *important service* he has rendered his country,) if you will suppress your intended publication, I will present you with five hundred pounds. If, madam, you assent to my proposal, please to signify the same by letter, and I will immediately come to town and pay the money,

“ I am, dear madam,

“ With the greatest respect,

“ Your most obedient and humble servant,

“ T. PRUDEN.

“ P. S. Please to direct for me at Barnard Castle, county of Durham.

“ *Mrs. M. A. Clarke, King's road London.*”

As all the *circumstances attending* colonel Wardle's motion in the court of King's Bench for a new trial have appeared before the public, and the opinions of the judges also fresh in the memory of the intelligent reader, it precludes the necessity of my going over a question which rested upon the custom of the court in similar cases.

If I were disposed to canvass all the *points of evidence* given at my trial for conspiracy, I should scarcely know where to close this work, from the *abundant contradictions* which it will manifest to the *attentive reader*; but, as such an illustration would in some measure *constitute a repetition* of that narrative already gone through, I should be making an unjustifiable claim on public patience.

Impressed thus upon the subject, I shall now proceed to a few remarks upon the manner mr Alley, the prosecutor's counsel, conducted that cause, which his vanity led him to believe would almost *immortalize* him!

There is an old remark, that a "great thing is too much for a little mind;" and I verily believe that mr. Alley evinced the force of this observation in the management of that prosecution. All irritable and violent men are unfit to take the lead in any great cause, as its *importance* is apt to impress a consequence upon him to whom its care is assigned, and thus throw a hot-headed general off his guard. Mr Alley had, no doubt, sufficient time to *study* and make the most of the speech he so laboriously composed for my destruction, from the evident *touches* of Old Bailey eloquence with which it so amply abounds.

I do not pretend to know any thing of his *family* or *breeding* in Ireland (though I expect his *history* every day from that country); but this I know, that an *irish cobbler* would have remembered that I was a *woman* and a *mother*, and not have designated me by such *epithets* as *graced the lips* of this gentle-

man from the sessions ! where, most likely, he acquired the *ornaments* of speech and the *eloquence* of the english bar !

What opinion does the reader suppose twelve respectable men (most of whom, no doubt, were husbands and fathers) must have had of colonel Wardle, who *could instruct* his counsel to color me in such terms to them ; when a few months before, he, in conjunction with mr. Whitbread, lord Folstone, and many other respectable men, had described me as an *injured woman patiently bearing my misfortunes, and supporting my children* in silent distress, till he had allured me into public notice ? I ask, what any one must think of *that man's character* who could instruct his counsel to preface his *perjury* with such *ungentlemanly epithets*, and falsehoods, as mr. Alley advanced to the court on that day !

But to proceed: Mr. Alley thought to astonish the jury by throwing out insinuations *against* the government, the first of which was, I believe, with respect to the "*arch juggler*." Now, this *political compound of unmeaning nothingness* by some accident suggested itself to the *party months* before, when mr. Corfield was drawing the briefs to meet Wright's action, and on that trial the "*arch juggler*" was to have made it first appear in the world ; but, as it was *not founded* on even the *shadow of truth*, it remained at rest till the papers got into the hands of mr. Ellis ; and then, I suppose, HE or HIS counsel thought, if used in court, it would *astonish the jury*, and *involve* the government in *public suspicion*, perhaps odium ; he therefore *resuscitated* this *bugbear of the brain* from its peaceful slumbers for public animadversion !

The next *dirty and false* charge insinuated against the government was, that major Dodd lost his situation for having gone before the grand jury to support colonel Wardle's bill of indictment against me : but the fact is, that major Dodd knew very

well how *he lost his situation*, and how he acquired a very large fortune at Gibraltar. If, however, he should have *forgotten it*, I will just remind him, that there are such things as NEUTRAL VESSELS ! the reader may perhaps recollect, that, after mr. Alley threw out this charge, the attorney general sent to his chambers for *the papers* which were connected with the PROCEEDINGS NOW GOING ON against him for his conduct while at Gibraltar. So much, then, for all this *empty stuff* which was employed to *blacken* every thing that did not bear the feature of *republican furor* ! and so much for the honesty of the man, whom mr. Alley portrays to the world in these *fine and high SOUNDING* words : “ The next witness I shall present to you, gentlemen, will be major Dodd, who I have told you will appear before you in a high, proud, and manly state : he is an honorable and manly man ; and, after the late instance of *his noble mindedness and disinterestedness*, he well deserves to have his name placed upon SOME PILLAR, ON WHICH SHOULD BE INSCRIBED, ‘ TO THE MEMORY OF AN HONEST MAN.’ ” Though this *gingerbread* speech of mr. Alley’s was evidently the result of *much study*, it displays no traits of a *great imagination*, notwithstanding it is as full of ridiculous *illustrations of the necessity of public virtue* as it is full of falsehood ; unless, indeed, his nonsense with respect to Bonaparte’s *rise in the world* be considered *among the sublime* ! who is about as *virtuous* a character as the colonel, but WITH A VERY DIFFERENT HEAD !

A man who studied his subject as mr. Alley had done, and without being obliged to follow the truth, ought, out of so *much fiction*, to have been able to have made a most brilliant reply, if he really possessed any *great gifts of ability*. But what was the case ?—why, a most miserable *answer*, that showed a want of those powers of mind necessary to eminence at *that bar*. His only excuse for *floundering* about, in his answer to the attorney general, was one of which a counsel ought

to be ashamed to acknowledge ; namely, that he did not expect the examination of mr. Stokes, or any other witness, on my side, and therefore *he had not taken notes* : but what *signified notes* upon a *familiar case*, on which he at first *had nothing but fiction as his guide* ? a good general is never off his guard, and taken by surprise ! neither sir Vicary Gibbs nor mr. Garrow would have made such an excuse, or have been *out-generalled* in a cause like that, before the court !

But though he had only the examination of *one* witness to contend with, it was evidently too much for him, and sooner than he would *cut* a bad cause he was ready to *cut* an OLD and *serviceable* FRIEND. if the jury had been as weak as he wished them, and found me guilty ! mr. Stokes ought, however, to be *proud* that he may again *be allowed* to reap all the advantages to be derived from the society of such an *elegant and finished orator* !

Of the jury who presided I have no personal knowledge, and have only to repeat what I before observed with respect to the former gentlemen who tried mr. Wright's action, that, when they see this work, they will feel pleased with their *verdict* of that day, as complimentary to their good sense, discernment, and honor ! I know every artifice was used to *oppose* every person as a juror *who was not thought a patriot*, and accordingly a man by the name of LEMAITRE, (commonly called *post-gun* Lemaitre) a watch-case maker, who was confined some years ago for shooting at the king, was colonel Wardle's agent on that occasion. I only mention this *humble* individual, to show the *description* of persons with whom the colonel finds it political to IDENTIFY HIMSELF ! there are about fifteen of these kind of men, who assume *the appearance of business*, that are MAINTAINED PRIVATELY to further a CERTAIN CAUSE !

I regret exceedingly that mr. Wright's witnesses were not examined on my prosecution for conspiracy,

and the whole of the evidence not gone into, which I am sure would have given a very *different feature to the result of the trial* : but, out of delicacy to the duke of Kent's *presence*, my counsel were induced to *rest our case upon other grounds* :—I have also to express my *regret and disappointment* that the *roguery* of colonel Wardle deprives me from *publishing* those *affidavits* and the *evidence*, of about FIFTEEN PERSONS, in consequence of his *now making every endeavor*, through his *proceedings in CHANCERY*, to keep mr. Francis Wright out of his bill, the amount of which the public lately subscribed (under false impressions of his character) to defray the expences he was *supposed* to incur in the great public cause ! the colonel has employed that *very money* to other purposes, and is now *using every trick to deprive* a respectable and honest tradesman of a SUM OF MONEY given to him by a jury of his country.

This is, however, all of a piece with the general conduct of a *patriot* ; but it LOCKS up for THE PRESENT a very important part of my case, which must be kept in reserve to meet all the *legal artifice* that will, no doubt, be *used* to injure that very man who might have ruined colonel Wardle during the investigation by a full and *profitable* exposure of his *bribery to me*, and who, according to the colonel's request, made *such an entry* in his books as then *appeared most satisfactory* to his wishes, in order to conceal his pecuniary transaction with mr. Wright, and secure *his honor* with the *house of commons* and the *public*.

Further than it was necessary, I have not made mr. Francis Wright's case the subject of *local* observation, as every line of this work which goes to the *justification of my conduct* also *justifies* his ; and either we are *both guilty* if imposing upon that *unguarded and innocent character* colonel Wardle, or we are both spotless, which is with the *impartial reader* to decide upon, after perusing this work.

Mr. Wright has been a great sufferer in consequence of his *honor* to colonel Wardle, which almost every man would *have sacrificed* in the *heat* of the investigation for **USEFUL PATRONAGE**. If such a secret had been with sir Richard Phillips, he would have **SOLD IT** ten times over, and afterwards have *laughed* at the colonel's folly for having reposed a *marketable article* with him ! But with mr. Wright the thing was different ; and he has been almost ruined in *peace of mind* and *public opinion* from having been truly honorable to an *ill-principled impostor*, who would sacrifice his parent for a little **POPULARITY !!!**

I do flatter myself that this work will restore mr. Wright very deservedly to public favor, whose *honest friendship and misapplied fidelity* have for a *time* suffered all that party malice and *perjury* could do for his destruction ! but as circumstances have turned out, he may console himself with this proud reflection, that, though colonel Wardle *is a patriot*, he has the pre-eminence of being an honest man !

In winding up my account with the immaculate colonel Wardle, I must be allowed to remind him of his not having *verified any* of his promises to the people of England. It is within the recollection of every one that he was to convict me of *perjury* or conspiracy, neither of which has taken place. In fact, there was not a *phrase sufficiently* strong with which he could designate *my conduct*, and awaiting *ruin*, that he did not call into the service of *his cause* ; and such a cause which has in the end shown the colonel not to be a patriot, but a **VILLAIN !!!**

APPENDIX.

When this book was nearly ready for publication, we were politely furnished by a friend with late London papers, from which we copy the following matter.

MRS. CLARKE'S PUBLICATION.

The second edition of Mrs. CLARKE'S "*Rival Princes*," has made its appearance, and as she threatened, with certain additional letters, eight in number, from Lord FOLKSTONE to her, selected, as she says, from about forty now in her possession. The more immediate object of this second edition is, the refutation of Lord FOLKSTONE'S letter recently published,* as may be seen by the following extracts:—

* The following is the letter alluded to, and which was originally published in the London Morning Chronicle of Friday, June 15, 1810.

To the editor of the Morning Chronicle.

SIR,

The letter of which the annexed is a copy, I should be glad you would insert in your paper to-morrow.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

June 14.

GM. LL. WARDLE.

"DEAR WARDLE,

"Cowes, June 12.

"I have just seen by the papers that Mrs. Clarke has at last published her book, and therein a letter addressed to her by me in June last. I have not seen the work itself, I therefore do not know what use she makes of the letter; but it cannot fail to occur to you, that the opinions therein expressed were founded, SOLELY ON THE REPRESENTATIONS SHE GAVE ME. The letter is evidence of my feelings at the time, but upon the subject of these feelings we have already come to an understanding.—I should therefore not have troubled you now with this observation, had I not found that Major Dodd's name is mentioned in that letter, which I was not aware of, and think it due to him to state, and I beg you to state to him from me, that as those opinions were form-

" As this patriotic nobleman has so completely lost himself by his letter to col. Wardle, I will, out of about forty letters, lay before the public a few of his epistles, that the reader may be better able to judge of his conduct, character, and services!!!

" As the following letter requires little or no illustration, I shall subjoin it with only this remark, that lord FOLKSTONE then knew that my letters had been shown about by DODD, and that he, *at that time*, believed that the duke of Kent had seen them.

" Feb. 18, 1809.

" DEAR MADAM,

" The house was not inclined to take your letters last night, when I first wished to produce them, and indeed it did not seem at that time at all important that they should have them. Afterwards, however, something passed, which made me desirous that they should be produced; but the committee had broken up, and there was a difficulty in point of form. It was finally determined that some clerks from the bank, who are in the habit of examining hand-writings, should compare the three letters of the duke's, which are on the table of the house, and be examined at the bar on Monday, whether, in their opinion, they are

ed and expressed, when I was satisfied of the truth of the representations made to me, so now that I have no longer reason to maintain them, I can have no objection to disavowing, as I would have done before, had I recollected having so written.

" The same remark applies equally to the ' royal brother.'

" I will not disguise to you the extreme pain which I always feel when I see my name in the papers, and my opinions and conduct made the matter of public discussion; but I think I am bound to give you full authority to make what use you or major Dodd may think proper of this letter.

" I remain, dear Wardle,

" Your obedient humble servant,

" To G. L. Wardle, esq.

" FOLKSTONE,

" James-street, London."

all of the same writing? If they say 'yes,' I shall be content—if they say 'no,' I shall endeavor to get you called in, in order that you may produce that packet of letters which you brought down yesterday. You must, therefore, hold yourself in readiness to appear again on Monday, unless you hear from me to the contrary; and *I beg you in the mean time, to keep the letters in your possession, and not let any one whatever take them out of your house.*

"Yours, in great haste,
"FOLKSTONE."

(Signed)

"The next letter which I beg to introduce to the notice of the reader, is of some importance to the support of my book, as it speaks of a *hundred pounds* which Wardle presented (as Dodd and Wardle informed me) from the duke of Kent to miss Taylor, for her *services*; but the duke may have a short *memory*, and now thinks it political to forget his **GOOD DEEDS!**

"DEAR MADAM,

"I forgot to give you, at the play last night, the inclosed, which Wardle had given me for you; I therefore now send it to you.

"I also forgot to desire you to beg of miss Taylor not to employ the 100*l.* which Wardle *received for her*, and, as I understand, gave to her, but to let it go to the subscription. If she has not now spent it, send it me, and I will put it down to Budd's book. It will have, I think, a much more advantageous effect in that way.

"I hope you got away from the play without any mobbing; and that you are well to-day.—I am yours truly,

"FOLKSTONE.

"*Tuesday morning, half past two o'clock.*"

"Of course I need not beg of you, if you send the 100*l.* note, to send it me under cover."

" This letter must convince the reader that *this* political party wanted back the duke's present of 100*l.* to *swell out the subscription*, which had been proposed by Mr. Cobbett, and was supported with such public enthusiasm.

" The reader will perceive, from the perusal of this letter, that Lord Folkstone had greatly interested himself in my affairs, and was my *principal private* adviser with respect to the suppression of my last book.

" *Harley-street, April 3, 1809, half-past twelve, morning.*

" DEAR MADAM,

" I had not left my claret, but my tea, and a pleasant company, and was putting on my great coat *at the foot of Wardle's stairs*, when I received your commands, in obedience to which alone I reluctantly made up my mind not to call on you this evening. I hope that neither illness nor anger (for which I can guess no cause), was the cause of the peremptory order I received, and which, so much against my will, I obeyed. I am glad you have sent the letters; I hope they were written fair, and that you attended to yours. —I have been perusing the paper which your *legal adviser*, Comrie, wanted you to sign. I see more reason each time I read it why you should not sign a paper drawn up in that form; but especially a paper like that, so incorrectly written, and full of abbreviations, &c.—Beware of this man—I think he is no friend of yours.—I will, if I can, keep awake to-night, or at all events in the morning, put to paper some ideas on the subject. In the mean time let me exhort you not to agree to verbally, and especially not to sign, any proposal hastily, and without consideration. My head is not a cool one; but I think it cooler than yours; and, at all events, the delay occasioned by your resolution to consult me, at least insures time for reflection. I will call on you at the

time which you will name. I have an engagement in Blackfriars'-road, at three, which will detain me some time; and either before or after that, I must go into the city; but I will call on you either at one or at five, or at your dinner hour, or early or late in the evening, as will best suit you—fix the time, and I will make my arrangements in consequence.—Adieu, I shall now go to bed. The scratches in this letter prove how unfit I am for business now. Let me hear from you, and believe me, dear madam,

“ Ever truly yours,
“ FOLKSTONE.”

(Signed)

“ The following letter will show *that* Dodd was not the only person who had a *finger* in the book which was then about to be published.

“ Lord Folkstone acknowledges his *anxiety* with respect to the *manner* my efforts were to go *into the world*, and in this *epistle* gives another *proof* of his *friendship* for the woman whose word he now endeavors to *lessen* in the good opinion of the public!!

March 27, 1809.

“ DEAR MADAM,

“ I am nearly knocked up as ever rip of a race-horse was at the end of the fourth four mile heat for a king's plate; but I am not inclined to give in yet—I want to talk about Lawson. I also want to talk to you about your book: if the preface is not finally determined on and printed, I should like to look it over. It is of great importance to you that you should be PROPERLY AND TRULY REPRESENTED IN IT TO THE PUBLIC; I am, therefore, desirous to see it, before it is too late; get it home for this purpose if you can, and I will call this evening, after dinner, about ten o'clock.

“ Let me know if such arrangements will suit you, and believe me ever truly,

Yours (in haste),
“ FOLKSTONE.”

(Signed)

" With what face can mr. Cobbett abuse me in his *Weekly Register*, after the reader is made acquainted with this letter, and discovers that he, and lord Folkstone, endeavored to make me an instrument of *political* convenience, for the purpose of attacking any *object* that best suited the policy of the moment.

" DEAR MADAM,

" I received the inclosed to-day, from mr. Cobbett. I wish you would, without loss of time, *inquire* into the facts, and let me know the result. I will call, if possible, for your answer to-morrow, about four ; if I cannot call, I will send in the evening. Take care of the letters, and return them. I hope you are better.—Ever yours, (in haste),

" FOLKSTONE.

" *April 22, 1809.*"

" The husband of the lady who is named in the following letter, I *essentially served*, and in return for my *kindness*, mrs. Elderton was afterwards pleased to say that she did not recollect me. Lord Folkstone, who was always upon the look-out for a *political job*, heard me mention my friendship to mrs. Elderton, and made some endeavors to turn her husband's case to account ; he therefore commenced a correspondence with her, in the course of which she tried to *coax some* money out of his pocket, but in that attempt she failed, as lord F. will do any thing but *give or lend* his money. The reader will perceive, however, by this letter, that his lordship was only a *political* visitor, and FREQUENTED my house, in order to obtain something that might *bring him into public favor*.

" DEAR MADAM,

" *April 12.*

" I am not to see mrs. Elderton till this evening.

at nine—will you give me some dinner in my way there at seven? I do not think I shall be kept at the house beyond this time.

“Truly yours, (in haste),
“FOLKSTONE.”

“The whole of my next letter also confirms my declaration, that I was made the *instrument* of serving political men with the means of obtaining *popularity*, by bespattering any one they felt a disposition to *degrade* or *lessen* in the estimation of the country.

“DEAR MADAM,

“I called upon you to inquire, whether you had pursued the inquiry about the bribes offered to the baker in Church-lane—and to beg you (if you have not) to do so without loss of time. If you can give me any information about that matter, send it me—my servant shall call about six for your answer, he will bring it to me at the house. If you have not yet done any thing, pray set about it immediately, as in case of an adjourned debate (which I think mighty probable), it will be sufficiently early to have this information to-morrow, and I will call in the course of the morning, to hear if you have any to give.—Last night was the darkest I was ever out in—I fell *into the ditch* by the chapel, and luckily did NOT BREAK MY NECK.

“Truly yours,
“FOLKSTONE.”

“It may be necessary for me here to inform the reader, that I repeatedly *intreated* lord Folkstone to take those letters back which he had written to me. I made this offer to him from an impression, that he was a man of high honor, and that he was *incapable* of a *falsehood*; but, alas! I have *been deceived even in him!*

“This letter will show the reader, however, that I

had no intention to make use of his letters in any *improper* way ; but when my character and feelings were concerned, from the villanous prosecution that was instituted against me, I trust the reader will *think me* justified in having called in every aid and assistance within my ability, to repel the effects of Wardle's malice, and as lord Folkstone's letter was a very important document, in support of my narrative, I was *painfully* obliged to give it a niche in the work. Had his lordship *continued the gentleman* I once believed him to be, I should not have inserted these other letters, out of about *forty*, which, if published, *must lessen him*, and *raise* me in the estimation of the people !

“ July 17, 1809.

“ DEAR MADAM,

“ As I have no reason to think that you will make use of my letters, and as I have no reason *to be ashamed of any thing in them if you do*, I have no wish to have them returned—you are welcome to keep or destroy them as you please.

“ With respect to sir Richard Phillips', I have destroyed it, and I wish you not to speak of it to any one. My reason I will tell you when we meet.

“ I too have seen a paragraph in *The Press* about Cobbett.—The whole is quite false, except the fact of the visit ; I am sure, if any thing of the sort had passed, I should have recollected it, and I have no recollection at all of the kind ; I am sure it is false.—In great haste, yours truly,

(Signed)

“ FOLKSTONE.”

“ I must here inform the reader, that col. Pigot's name having been introduced to the notice of the house through the investigation, I felt exceedingly anxious to convince him of my not having been the *intentional cause of it* ; and that I wished him to be

convinced, that he ranked amongst those friends whom I most esteem

“Accordingly, I asked lord Folkstone to write to the Cape of Good Hope, to express my sorrow at the public use of his name, and that my good intentions towards him were in no way *abated* !

“This request will account for the following letter, which is another proof of his lordship’s good opinion of me:—

“August 30, 1809.

“DEAR MADAM,

“I found your letter on my arrival in town yesterday. My acquaintance with Pigot is so slight, that I think there will be considerable awkwardness in my writing to him on this subject, and I shall have some difficulty in knowing what to say to him. If, however, you still wish it, send me his address, and I will write to say, that in every thing I have ever heard you say of him you have seemed to *consider him as your friend*, and that I am totally ignorant of any injury you would, much more of any you meant, to do him. I apprehend this would altogether meet your ideas.

“There is scarce any one in town, and I have heard of nothing stirring. I hope you and the girls are well.

“I am yours ever truly,

(Signed)

“FOLKSTONE.”

“Mrs. Clarke, Cowes, Isle of Wight.”

“Having given the reader eight more letters out of forty which I have in my possession, I hope it will be clearly seen, that no longer ago than the latter end of August last, which is not yet ten months, lord Folkstone held me in *high and friendly esteem*, and I should like to be *informed what his motives are*, for *now* thinking otherwise of me than he did then?

" I am about to introduce to my reader, a curious letter which I found in my iron chest, *full of VERY CURIOUS* letters, among which, I *enertain a hope*, that I shall lay my hand upon a note of the duke of Kent's, which I am inclined to think major Dodd *dropped* in pulling out his handkerchief, after he had taken a large portion of mr. Illingworth's wine, which he thinks *I am weak* enough to pay for !

" I shall introduce this letter from dr. O'Meara, and then the reader may give the *sanguina y* part of the epistle what credit he pleases; but, certainly, Robespierre never did *a cooler thing* than that which is said to have distinguished the patriotic———

" The reader will see that the letter is written to my brother, capt. Thompson, who most probably left it with me, when I had no idea of its ever making a public appearance.

" *Dublin, 29, Frederick-street.*

" MY DEAR SIR,

" I congratulate you on the victory mrs. Clarke has gained over the mushroom patriot; I think we could give him *le coup de grace*. I have collected some curious particulars of his own campaign in Ireland; one most horrible, and which will be proved on oath. One day during the rebellion, he met a poor man near Athy, with a satchel on his back, containing an axe, an augur, a saw, &c.; he immediately concluded the poor man was a rebel, having such dangerous weapons concealed in a sack. In vain the poor man declared he was a carpenter, and that these were his tools. The —— could not be convinced, and he ordered his head to be sawed off, which was done on the spot. I hope mrs. C., now that she has passed through this ordeal trial, will have no objection to state the whole truth, for my private and per-

sonal friends. She told me she did not intend to mention my name ; that she was forced by mr. Wardle to embellish as she did with respect to me. The blow was aimed at the established church, to stab it through the sides of a clergyman. The reformers and methodists being leagued together to pull down both church and state.

“ My letters in defence of the duke were not mentioned, which was the ground and cause of my introduction to him ; and his royal highness having thanked me for writing those letters, I ventured to ask him for the chaplaincy of the royal yacht, and for which he promised to apply on my forwarding to him a letter of recommendation from some bishop, and which I did from Bath, directed to Portman-square ; this fact I wish to have cleared up, to show the archbishop and my friends here.

“ Cobbett says I preached at Weymouth from under the wing of mrs. C. ; whereas it was the year before I preached before the royal family, viz. 1804. In the microcosm of London, it is difficult to distinguish ladies under protection from ladies of fashion ; each of these orders borrows the manners of the other, and they act their parts as naturally ; it was no wonder a man of so much simplicity was deceived by the illusions of graceful manners, and modest discourse. The goddess Hecate, who presided over magic and enchantments, was the same with Luna and Diana. Mrs. C. could personate this divinity with ease, assuming all her forms, attributes, and functions, and mr. O. assured me she was a widow in the last month of her grief. The masquerade was continued by the visits of ladies of fashion at her house, and the visiting cards of many of high consideration, &c. &c. &c.

“ I intend being in London in spring, when I hope to see you ; and I shall be glad to get an answer to this letter.

“ When you see mr. O. give him my best regards.

“ I am, my dear sir, yours sincerely,

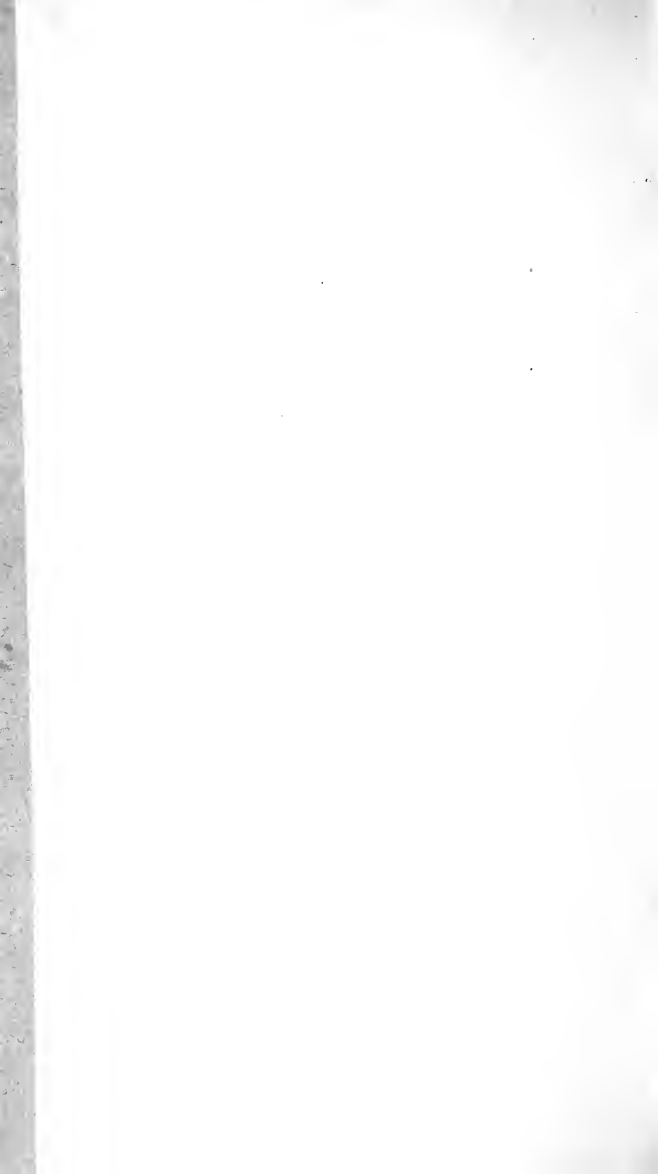
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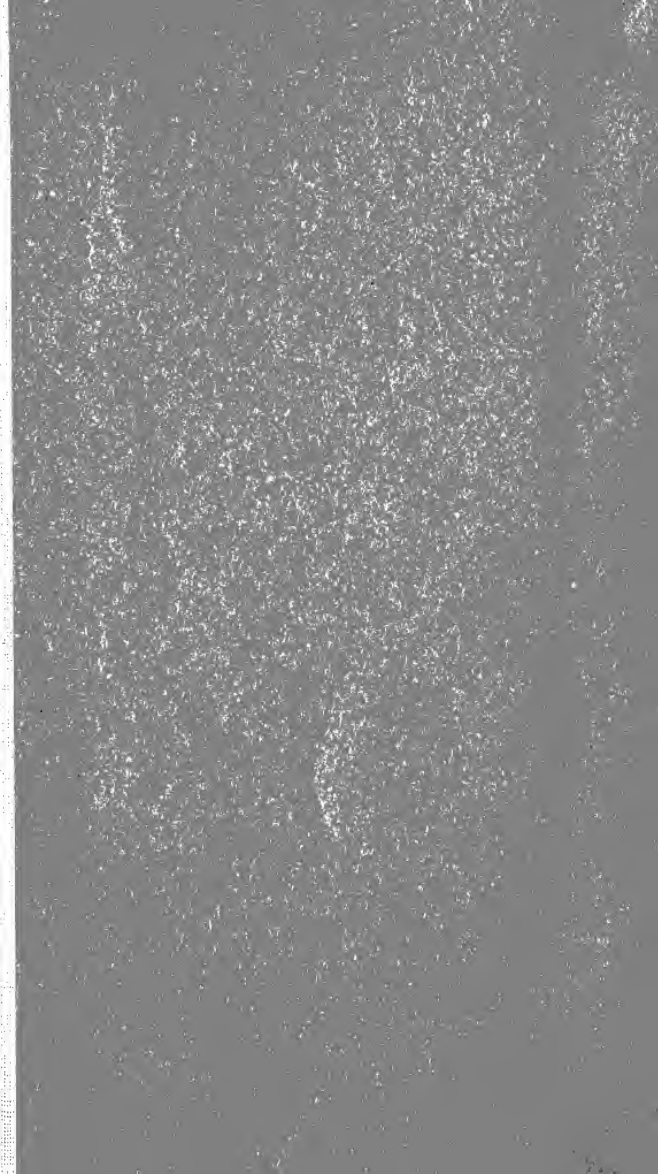
“ T. O'M.”

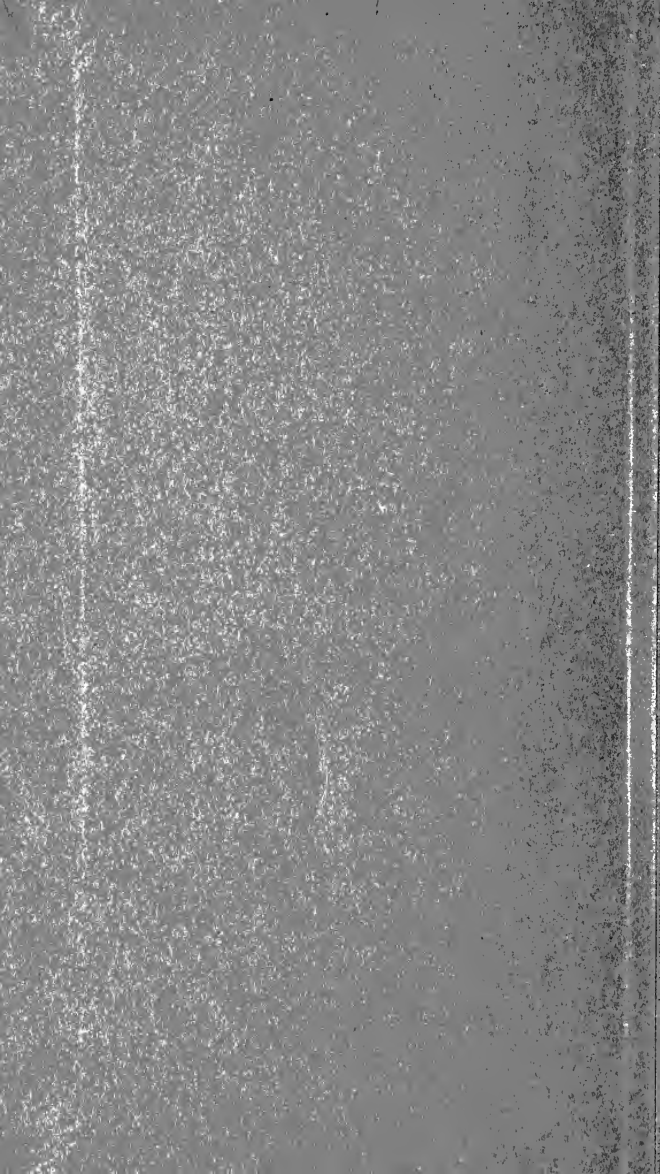
“I opened this letter to add, that the letter of mine which was found by the secret committee, and which has been so much misrepresented as an indecent production, was an answer to an hoaxing letter I got from mrs. C. in which she said she was tired of the pomps and vanities of this wicked world, &c. That *Mary Magdalen* was not more penitent, and entreating that I would comfort the weak-hearted, and find out for her a cheap and safe asylum in Ireland. I answered the epistle of this witty piece of *Eve's flesh in print*, and for which the saints and reformers have splashed me with abuse. Mrs. C. got back this letter, and I hope she will preserve it and the archbishop's letter.”

FINIS.

14
D.C.







FEB 6 - 1935

